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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Napoleon in Council; or, the Opinions delivered by Buonaparte in the Council of State. Translated from the French of Baron Pelet (de la Lozère), Member of the Chamber of Deputies, and late Minister of Public Instruction, by Captain Basil Hall, R.N. 12mo. pp. 334. Edinburgh, 1837. Cadell; London, Whittaker and Co.

THESE are nothing connected with the history of Buonaparte which can fail to attract public curiosity and interest; and we are indebted to Captain Hall for laying before us the traits developed in this volume. He himself describes it so well as to save us the trouble of analysis.

"I have been induced," he states, "to bring this work before the English public, from a belief that it contains not only a good deal that is interesting and characteristic, but, probably, something which is new respecting Napoleon. From an intimate personal acquaintance with the author, Monsieur Pelet (de la Lozère), I feel thoroughly persuaded that the whole is written in good faith, and that every incident or conversation here recorded is perfectly authentic. The subject, it may, perhaps, be thought, is well nigh worn out; but, as there can be no doubt that many parts of it have hitherto been mystified—some by design, and some unintentionally—it occurred to me that a trustworthy statement, coming from a person who has enjoyed peculiar advantages for ascertaining the truth, might still be considered acceptable. M. Pelet's means of obtaining information arose from his having occupied high and confidential situations; first, under the consulate and the empire, afterwards, during the restoration, and, more recently, under the present government of France: while his rank in society, his talents, and his habits of business, enabled him to profit by the ample opportunities which a position so advantageous gave him, during these successive political epochs. Under Napoleon, the author was long a member of the council of state, and administrator of the royal forests of the civil list; both of which situations brought him frequently in contact with the head of the government. During the restoration, he enjoyed the title of councillor of state; and for four years was Prefect of the Loire and Cher, of which department he was elected a deputy in 1827, a seat which he has occupied up to this time. Since the accession of Louis Philippe to the throne, he has been vice-president of the chamber of deputies; and, for some time, held the important office of minister of public instruction. Finally, by his marriage with the daughter of M. Otto (who, it may be remembered, negotiated the preliminaries of the treaty of Amiens, and afterwards filled various high diplomatic situations on the Continent), M. Pelet came into the possession of many valuable official documents, several of which, so far as I know, are now for the first time laid before the public."

Such are the claims of this work upon the attention of readers; and the author observes:—

"There is, I believe, only one writer, a distinguished member of the council of state, who has published the opinions of Napoleon as

he actually gave them utterance in the council, at the very moment of action, and while the business to which they related was going on. But that author ceased to be a member of the council of state in 1803, and could not, therefore, continue his notes. My purpose is, to continue the work just alluded to, first, by help of memoranda, made up to 1806 by a hand in which I have perfect confidence, and, afterwards, by means of those taken by myself."

The account of the Council itself, its constitution, members, and modes of proceeding, is not the least remarkable part of this volume; but it will better suit our purpose to offer some specimens of its contents, than to examine the various subjects discussed by this Napoleon-chamber, where his personal presidency left but little of freedom for debate, or appetite for opposition. A few features of the assembly and its proceedings must suffice.

"When Chénier, accordingly, as the head of a commission from the Institute, read to the emperor a report on the centennial prizes, and took occasion to mention the names of many distinguished persons belonging to different parties, who had been swallowed up by the revolution,—the Baillys, the Lavoisiers, the Vergniauds, and the Gensonnés, he said, with perfect truth, that if they had outlived the hurricane, they would now have filled the seats round the emperor, and laboured with him to reconstruct the shattered fabric of society. Chénier, himself pale and trembling, and deeply marked with the traces of the passions by which he had been shaken, presented a living monument of those stormy times, which he had survived not without the greatest difficulty. There was something not a little dramatic, and even touching, in the old man's appeal to the shades of those men, many of whom had taken different lines from himself, but whom he would have ranged as supporters of the new throne, which had risen out of their discords. The most laborious periods of the council of state were during the consulate, and during the first years of the empire. Then were framed the codes—the laws—the decrees, and the regulations, which constituted the new administration of the country, and under which we still live. Napoleon, when first consul, presided sometimes at the meetings of the sections, from ten o'clock in the evening till five in the morning. He then took a bath, after which he was soon ready to recommence work. In speaking of this practice, he said, 'One hour in the bath is worth four hours of sleep to me.' This restless activity, which he exhibited in his own person, he exacted from all those whom he called to his aid. * *

"It may be asked, 'what impression will be produced on the reader's mind by the documents I here lay before him? what opinion will be formed of Napoleon, and his system of administration, by the observations made by him in the council of state?' The reply is that, unquestionably, the same opinion which the public have already formed will be thereby confirmed. They will recognise in Napoleon's character a mixture of impetuosity and trickery, half French, half Italian, but in which impetuosity predominated; while it was modified

by such a decided bearing towards absolute power, that it could not fail, on the one hand, to deaden all the internal energies of his country, and, on the other, eventually to rouse foreign nations into resistance. At the period when Napoleon came to the possession of power, he found himself placed in the most favourable circumstances possible to establish the union of freedom with the monarchical authority. France, in fact, dreaded nothing so much as anarchy, and would have been contented with a very reasonable allowance of freedom. But, unfortunately, that is always the predicament in which despotism is the most tempted to establish itself. Napoleon, accordingly, did establish a despotism; and, in the dread of having to combat republican tendencies at home, he carried abroad all the active spirits of the nation, and precipitated himself into a series of wars and conquests, which could have no other end but a fatal catastrophe. Even he himself was possessed with the notion that he could find nothing permanent. In full council he exclaimed one day, 'All this will last as long as I hold out; but, when I am gone, my son may call himself a lucky fellow if he has a couple of thousands a-year.'

After the rupture of the peace of Amiens, the projected invasion of England became a council business. M. Pelet says, —

"Napoleon now resumed his intention of invading England; or, at all events, his demonstrations,—for it is still a question whether or not he ever seriously meditated this enterprise. He gave directions for publishing accounts of all the past invasions of a similar nature—not forgetting those of Julius Caesar and William the Conqueror, whose success appeared to furnish an example for imitation; and, as flat-bottomed boats and pinnaces were constructed every where—even in the wood-yards of Paris—the harbours of the Channel were soon crowded with vessels of all sizes and sorts. In a short space of time there were brought together in the ports of Boulogne, Etaples, Vimereaux, and Ambleteuse, two hundred and fifty sloops, each armed with three guns, six hundred and fifty gun-boats or pinaces with one gun each, and a great number of pinnaces carrying six guns a-piece. There were, moreover, assembled in these ports seven or eight hundred transports laden with artillery and other stores. It was reckoned that two thousand other vessels would be got together, and about forty thousand troops embarked at these points, while other twenty thousand were to start from Ostend, and as many more from Holland. These eighty thousand men, it was asserted, if once landed in England, would be sufficient to conquer the country and establish themselves in the first instance, while the army of Brest formed the reserve. At Boulogne, especially, the greatest efforts were made. In the department of the Marine alone there were expended upwards of a hundred thousand pounds sterling a-month, without taking the wages of the people into account. The soldiers employed in the works received the high pay of from a shilling to eighteenpence a-day. A mass of artillery, twice as great as was required

to equip the flotilla, was collected together; and new forts, constructed on every accessible point of the coast, impeded the attempts of the English to land: and though these batteries were washed away more than once by the violence of the waves, they were instantly built up again. * * * *

" To these encouraging speculations was added the assurance that the Rochefort and Toulon fleets, starting ostensibly for India, and having drawn off the English ships, would suddenly double upon them, and return to the Channel to cover our passage across. The more wonderful these wild combinations really were, the more they pleased the fancy and raised the spirits of the troops; who readily believed that the grand secret of this invasion was found out by their chief, to whose genius nothing, they firmly believed, was impossible. So that every individual soldier indulged himself confidently in anticipated glory and fortune! In the meantime, some small experiments were made, the result of which was by no means flattering. A flotilla of six-and-thirty sail, which proceeded from Havre to join the main force at Boulogne, perished by the way; and another, which set sail with a similar intention from Dunkirk, fell in with the English and lost many of their number. Nevertheless, these accidents caused no despondency, and every thing was speedily got ready at Boulogne."

The death of the Duke d'Enghien was another affair under the cognisance of the Council; and Buonaparte, among other remarks, is reported as saying,—

" 'The population of Paris,' exclaimed he, 'is a collection of blockheads (*un ramas de bâbards*), who believe the most absurd reports. Did they not take it into their heads to assert that the princes were concealed in the Austrian ambassador's house?—as if I did not dare to seek for them in that asylum! Are we, then, in Athens, where criminals cannot be followed into the temple of Minerva? Was not the Marquis of Bedmar arrested in his own house by the Venetian senate? and would he not have been hanged but for the dread of the power of Spain? Were the rights of nations respected at Vienna in the case of our ambassador, Bernadotte, when the national flag, hoisted over the very house of embassy, was insulted by a crowd, who threatened to pull it down? I respect the decisions of public opinion when they are justly formed; but it has its caprices, which we ought to learn to despise. It belongs to the government, and to those who support it, to enlighten the public—not to follow them in their wanderings. I carry with me the will of the nation, and have at my beck an army of five hundred thousand men—with which I know how to make the republic be treated with respect. If I had chosen to do so, I might have put the Duke d'Enghien to death publicly; and, if I did not, it was not from any fear of the consequences: it was in order to prevent the secret partisans of that family from exposing themselves, and thus being ruined. They are now quiet, and it is all I ask of them. I don't investigate the hearts of men to discover their secret sorrows. No complaints have been laid before me against the emigrants included in the amnesty; they were counted as nothing in this conspiracy; it was not with them that Georges or the Polignacs found refuge, but with women of the town and other reprobates of Paris. I have no thoughts of returning to proscriptions *en masse*; and those who affect to believe so know it to be untrue. But let those look to

themselves who take an individual share in such proceedings: they shall smart for it severely.'

The dramatic and aristocratic, or rather Bourbon-royal (for the precedent of Louis XVI. and the unfortunate Marie Antoinette is followed) provisions for the journey of Maria Louisa from Vienna to Paris are whimsical illustrations of human life; but we shall conclude with a specimen or two. Thus, on education, &c. :—

" At the sitting of the 11th March, 1806, he made the following observations on these topics. ' In framing the body of instructors, we must imitate the subordination observed in military ranks. I wish, above all things, to establish a corporate body of teachers, because a corporation never dies. The military school at Fontainebleau goes on capitally at the moment, because there is a good governor at its head; but this prosperity is merely transient. People need not be afraid that I shall establish monks. I should not succeed even if I wished it, especially if I required of them a life of celibacy at the age of twenty-one! Even in M. de Choiseul's time, the monks could not muster recruits, although his decree held out many advantages to them. His religious establishments for instruction were not, in fact, instituted in that view, but on the principle of renouncing the world, in order to obtain the distinction which belonged to this sacrifice. The monks were the pope's militia, who owned no other sovereign; and, consequently, they were more to be dreaded than the secular clergy, who, but for the monks, would never have caused any embarrassment. Every one knows the scandalous excesses which were carried on by the monks; and I can myself form a good estimate on that subject, as I was for some time brought up by them. I respect all which religion respects; but as a statesman, I cannot esteem the fanaticism of celibacy, which was a mere device adopted by the court of Rome for riveting the chains of Europe, by preventing the religious orders from becoming citizens. The military fanaticism is the only one which is of any use to me, as it makes men indifferent to death. After all, my chief object in establishing a body of instructors is, that I may possess the means of directing the political and moral opinions of the community. Such an institution will prove a guarantee against the re-establishment of the monks, and I shall hear no more on that subject; but if the institution I speak of be not formed, the monks will be back upon us some day. For my part, I should certainly prefer trusting the public education to a religious order than to leave it as it is at present: but I wish to have neither! At the sitting of the 20th March, 1806, he remarked: ' It strikes me, that the corps of instructors may consist of about ten thousand persons, and it seems essential that the members of the university—since that is to be its name—shall have the exclusive right of teaching, and that they shall be sworn in. Eight hundred thousand, or a million, of francs (30,000L or 40,000L), will be sufficient to cover the expenses of the proposed corporation. We must take care that the young men be not brought up either too bigoted or too sceptical; they ought, in short, to conform to the state of the nation and of society. It is worthy of remark, that education, at its commencement, has always been connected with religious notions. My habitual reading,' continued Napoleon, 'on going to bed, is that of the old chronicles of the 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th centuries. I either read them myself, or have them translated for me. Nothing is more curious, nor less known, than

the step from ancient to modern manners, and the transition from the old states to the new ones founded on their ruins. We take upon us to suppose, for example, that the ancient Gauls were barbarians: but this is a great mistake; for they were the real barbarians who carried barbarism amongst them.'

On the press:—

" 'The liberty of the press and the Emperor Napoleon are terms which, it was well observed, always growled at one another, whenever they came together. 'The character of the French nation,' said he one day, in the council of state, ' requires that the liberty of the press should be restricted in the case of works of a certain size; and the newspapers must be subjected to the rigid surveillance of the police.' This opinion was given at the time of the discussions respecting the constitution which was to declare him emperor; and we need not wonder at the small allowance of liberality which it contains. Some one spoke of the guarantees which should be given to the nation; and both the senate and the council of state, out of mere habit, muttered something about the 'liberty of the press,' which had formed a necessary part of every one of the constitutions promulgated up to the time in question (1st December, 1803). But Napoleon took good care that no such master as the press should be placed over him. The utmost he would allow was the nomination of a commission in the senate, whose nominal office it should be to watch over the freedom of the press, but who, it was well understood, should remain altogether inactive. How, indeed, was it to be expected that he who could never get accustomed to the freedom of speech with which he was assailed from the other side of the Channel, should submit to be criticised at home? The perusal of the insults which were lavished upon him by the English papers drove him into a fury which resembled that of the lion in the fable, stung to madness by swarms of gnats. He affected to grant a small modicum of liberty in the case of books, but this distinction was allowed to exist but a very short while; for it was found that when the papers were placed under a censorship and books not, the books soon acquired the influence which belonged properly to the newspapers. During the 'Hundred Days,' the liberty of the press formed by no means the least of Napoleon's annoyances; and it was clear that either it must crush him, or he must crush it. But the press and the tribune had become more than ever incompatible with his position, which was far more conformable to a dictatorship than to a representative government. Napoleon in France at the same time with a free press could be compared to nothing but Gulliver in Lilliput, bound down by a multitude of petty cords, which rendered it impossible for him to move hand or foot.'

With this we conclude; in the hope that, from what we have quoted, our readers will perceive that this volume is pregnant with matter for study and reflection.

Marcus Manlius; a Tragedy, in Five Acts.
By David Elwin Colombe. 8vo, pp. 112.
London, 1837. Bentley.

It gives us pleasure to see another aspirer to dramatic literature step forth, especially one coming under the gracious patronage of her Royal Highness the Princess Victoria, and approaching his task with so much modesty. Dramatic composition we have ever considered to be about the loftiest and most difficult part of literature; for in that alone must poetry be tied down to purpose: we speak not of the great

essentials, but of every particular image and description, springing from some feeling, illustrating some action, or otherwise furthering the plot. If the author but pauses to apostrophise a flower, it must become interwoven with his story; not a cloud must pass over his passages without being associated with them in purpose or passion: but it is with the classical drama (such as our author has chosen) that the thoughts and language must be as dignified as the characters drawn. The Roman toga sits but ill upon the figure of a hero, unless, by his graceful action and flowing eloquence, he can gather its floating folds, or throw them out at pleasure with as much ease as the playful wind sways a banner. For they were men who ever moved as if in the presence of their gods—cold, staid philosophers; their very laugh must have been solemn; and their loves—but the Roman maidens are gone, and it is only in such creations as these that we can ever hope to reach

"Their sighs, and tears, and soft emotions," and their daring converse, when they whispered to ambition in secret, or spoke aloud in the streets of patriotism.

Our author has chosen a period of great interest for his work; no other than the extermination of the Gauls from Italy. The plot is well sustained. The eager ambition of Marcus Manlius, and the calm circumventing policy of Camillus, are finely contrasted; while the loves of Octavia and Lucius are beautifully portrayed, and remind us pleasantly of Romeo and Juliet—more from their ill-starred situations than from either thought or incident being drawn from the Prince of Poets. This tragedy also possesses another feature, which we must not pass in silence: the gradual development of the plot and characters; each appearing, "as charm by charm unwinds," in perfect harmony, while the interest slowly swells, like the far-off murmuring of the sea before a storm. We are aware that our space prevents us from entering more fully into the subject, as we can only snatch a beauty or two at random, and must leave the whole to the good taste of our readers.

Love.

"Octavia. Nay, I will tell thee all, And lay my bosom open to thy view. My heart was not won lightly—yest, 'tis won: 'Tis not a day that hath produced this love, To bloom at morn, and, ere the evening, fade, As oft the brightest flower will drop and die; 'Tis founded on esteem,—sweet, dear esteem; The breath of love which gives it being, and Long outlives the passion it inspires."

Omen.

"Oct. How shone the midnight planet o'er the waves, Which hung in calm serenity, their freight Of love and beauty? 'In the dark, Too light for many minds, or boisterous seas, A happy, yet a hapless, pair appeared: The lover rose.' 'Twas for a moment; but the air That instant changed, and, with a sudden swell, The billows rose. No longer did they bear The bark upon the bosom of the deep:— 'Twas whelmed! Yet, ever and anon, far off We saw the maiden struggling with the waves; With each she seemed to combat, but, at length, Her life and nature sank. We turned aghast From such a scene, and, looking up, beheld—

Lucius. Nay, sweet Octavia, why on such a theme Dost think in such an hour?

Oct. Dost thou remember?

Luc. Ay, I remember, when we looked on high,

Thou didst exclaim—Behold, my natal star,

The planet which overrules my destiny,

Sinks into ocean. But, awa with this,

It was an idle thought; then shuddered, And clung to me for help; then did I chide

Thy fantasy, as now, and made thee smile.

Oct. Such days are past! As did that maiden strive With ocean's billows, have I struggled on With fortune: as she to her rest retired, By them subdued, even as my star foretold, I, overwhelmed, shall sink to my eternal rest."

Conscious Innocence.

"*Camillius.* Yes, it avails us much, When in our solitude we seek repose,

After many a long and weary toil And buffet with the world. This inward thought Sweetens the coming morn, declining eve, And makes our days pass placidly along; But in the world, the bitter—ay, the vile, Ungenerous world, it is as nothing. Can conscious rectitude in aught avail you, When fellow man shall hold you up to scorn, And pointing at your bosom, with his finger, Marks you as a villain! The stain remains, And as a canker in the healthiest tree, The heart will wear away."

Unexpected Hope.

"*Octavia.* Oh! do I merit it? This gleam of sunshine 'cross the gloomy soul— This spark of reason 'cross the maddened mind— This ray of hope, where all so hopeless seemed! I, who have even warred with the bright skies, And almost called the gods themselves unjust."

Sudden Joy.

"Lie still, my heart! thou shouldst not flutter thus At happiness! Away all care and sorrow! O! ye blest gods, receive my humble thanks!— 'Tis not for me to thank you, but for him! This foolish, restless tenant of my breast, Even as a bird fresh caught beats 'gainst its bars, As tho' 'twould burst such bounds, or perish there, Back, back to rest! I've neither speech nor words; Accept the silent offering of my heart, In prayer and gratitude."

Letters to the Right Hon. Lord Brougham and Vaux; presenting Rambling Details of a Tour through France, Switzerland, and Italy; with some Remarks on Home Politics. By Sir A. Brooke Faulkner, author of "A Visit to Germany," &c. 12mo. pp. 350. London, 1837. Macrone.

WITH the notorious dislike borne towards politics by the *Literary Gazette*, and its anxiety, during twenty years, to preserve, at least, one green and quiet spot of Literature uncontaminated and undisturbed by their presence, it will be felt as very natural that we should regret their intermixtures with the otherwise more agreeable details of Sir Arthur Faulkner. Had our author confined himself to a separate discussion of his opinions, we should have cared less; but, running through the volume, they are apt to cause the tourist to be suspected of prepossessions and prejudices which do not tend to strengthen the general and indifferent portions of his narrative. Such, we presume, will be their effect upon the minds of those readers who hold opposite tenets; but, on the other, the "Liberal" party, who agree with them, will only be the more gratified by seeing them so stoutly maintained and so frequently illustrated. The fact seems to be, that Sir Arthur, passing through countries suffering from despotic governments, priestly influence, and other abuses, has been led to impute all the evils he witnessed to these causes; and, by reflection and comparison, assimilate some of them to points which he condemns in our condition at home. As a sample how far an ardent temperament may be carried in such respects, we will quote a passage relating to Turin.

"The same system of keeping the people in ignorance prevails here as in other parts of Italy. There is a strict censorship of the press; hardly an English book is to be seen but the eternal Walter Scott, whose Tory principles have obtained for him a place in all the shop-windows over the Continent; yet, is the king said to make books his hobby, especially such as are of a religious character."

Are we to understand that "Guy Manning," "Old Mortality," "Ivanhoe," &c. &c. are but recommended to readers of every clime by their Tory principles? We pass an unfeeling mention of the melancholy suicide of Lord Castlereagh (p. 206)—another instance of the ill consequences of entertaining ultra-political notions; for, with the author's high and fine sense of the beauties of nature and art, it is else impossible to account for the bad taste it

exhibits—and copy, with relief, a notice of Sir W. Scott during his sojourn at Naples.

"None of the manuscripts are ever allowed to be taken out of the library without special permission from government. The rule, however, was waved in favour of Sir Walter Scott, who became a prodigious favourite with his present majesty. The novelist was anxious to take a copy of a particular legend, but found it impossible to obtain leave, but on the condition of transcribing it within the walls of the library. Sir Walter wrote direct to the king, and an order was immediately in the hands of the curator to place the manuscript at his disposal, with a verbal message to say that he was at perfect liberty to take it to his house, and retain it as long as he liked. During his short stay, we are told, he occupied himself laboriously in preparing matter for a new romance, founded on the story of Masaniello, when he was compelled, by the rapid decline of his health, to set out for England."

Having got over the reluctant part of our public duty—which, indeed, we have done as briefly as we could—we shall now proceed to the pleasant paths of the author's lucubrations. At Florence there are some interesting details of the branches of the Buonaparte family, with whom Sir Arthur enjoyed a gratifying degree of intercourse.

"An acquaintance," he says, "with the family of Napoleon was not among the least of the inducements that prevailed with us to stop a whole month at Florence. Four branches of the fallen dynasty were domiciled in this delightful capital. Prince De Montfort, the ex-king of Westphalia; Princess Survilliers, ex-queen of Spain; the Princess Lipona, ditto of Naples; and Prince de St. Leu, the ex of Holland; from each of which Xes we were honoured with the kindest attentions. The Westphalian chief is strikingly like to Napoleon, only much thinner. The princess reminded me of the charming affability of the Landgravine of Hesse Homberg. Prince Montfort has two sons, the eldest of whom has been some time at the military college at Stutgard; his second son, Napoleon, a youth of twelve years of age, the very image of the emperor, remained with his father, who, with an only sister, the Princess Matilda, composed his family. The Princess Matilda is about sixteen years of age, and one of the most amiable, lovely, and accomplished of her sex: English, too, in her predilections, English in her style of beauty, and speaking our language like a native. I have said young Napoleon is the image of the emperor; nor is the resemblance confined to his person and features. He has the same quickness and point in his remarks. I asked him if he spoke French. 'Why not?' said he, 'I am a Frenchman.' I apologised in French for not speaking with more fluency. 'How so?' said he, 'when you are speaking it so well?' You find none of the frivolities about this youth that cleave to boys of his age: and in every one respect he is as well mannered as the most accomplished man of the world. I am much mistaken, should a good opportunity offer, if this youth is not heard of yet. The *soirées* of the Prince De Montfort were among the most select, as well as splendid in Florence."

"Poor Louis, the ex-sovereign of Holland, lingers in a deplorable state of health—half paralysed—and lives quite in retirement; never seeing any body, with the exception of his own immediate family, or an intimate friend. Yet, when this best-natured of beings understood we had a wish to be presented, he immediately fixed a day for the purpose, and received us

with a kindness of manner altogether peculiar to himself. Princess Charlotte, the daughter of King Joseph, who had been married to his eldest son, did us this kind office. We arrived before the princess, and found him looking on at a game of billiards. He immediately rose, and, carrying us into an interior apartment, entered into conversation. The princess was presently announced, and, on entering the *salon*, the amiable Louis got up, and, taking both her hands in his, remained for some time apparently overcome by an overpowering emotion. The reason was afterwards explained. That day happened to be the anniversary of her marriage with his son, whose untimely fate is so well known; and his infirm state of health was unequal to bear up against the feeling which her presence excited. The overflowing of good Louis's heart on this occasion well accords with the character of the man who refused to wear a crown rather than become the oppressor of his subjects. The Princess Lipona, sister of the emperor, who is still commonly addressed as Queen of Naples, is a woman of the rarest fascination of manner, and her palace the rendezvous of all that is gay and illustrious in the capital of Tuscany. Her likeness to her son, Colonel Achille Murat, struck me as quite remarkable; and the more remarkable, as Achille is so very like to Napoleon; though, what may sound paradoxical, his mother has positively not one feature in common with the emperor. The title of Lipona, which the princess has assumed, is a literal retention of her claims as Queen of Naples, or Napoli, the syllables being only reversed. She never formally abdicated her right to the crown. Murat, as every one knows, was put to death without having consented to any act of abdication. The princess bears her reverses with the most philosophical indifference; apparently the very happiest of the happy; commanding equally the love and admiration of all who are honoured with her acquaintance, and share her delightful conversation. In an apartment of her palace adjoining the great saloon, is deposited, in an enclosure of glazed frame-work, festooned with his orders of chivalry, a piled trophy of the arms presented to the hero of the 'haughty plume,' by the different sovereigns who were anxious to pay him their homage; swords, rifles, carbines, daggers, lances, all of the most costly workmanship, especially a scimitar from Achmet Bey, magnificently studded with brilliants. The special sword, too, which he bore through all his battles, is ornamented on the hilt with miniature enamels of the queen and her children; and in a vacant space of the armorial enclosure lies, in modest obscurity, the immortal plume itself. * * *

In a small apartment, off the princess's bed-room, there stands, on an elevated pedestal, the bust of Murat. None but the *élite* of her acquaintance are allowed to approach this hallowed little temple, the shrine of the idol of her pride and affections. When we were admitted, the bust was brilliantly radiated by lights, shedding a solemnity which struck me as far more imposing than could be produced by the most sombre sepulchral style of decoration. Flowers, and flowering shrubs, of the choicest beauty, were placed about the figure, uniting their graceful shade over the brows and forehead. The impression of solemnity may probably be accounted for by the gay contrast of these flowers and brilliant lights with the awful image of death. This gratification was reserved for the last evening we had the honour of passing at Princess Lipona's. On the same occasion we were de-

lighted with the well-recollected tones of Catalani's voice, in a duet with her daughter; and we visited her, next day, at her villa, within a few miles of Florence, where she is sumptuously lodged, and enjoys the green autumn of her days in great comfort, respected by every body, and unwearyed in deeds of charity and usefulness. I have a pleasure in speaking about Catalani, if it was only for the devotion she feels for England, which amounts to passion, and is shewn in every thing she says or does. Catalani, in fact, swears by England; she has English grates, English carpets, English chairs, English bedsteads and bed-curtains; and the beds are covered with our counterpanes. She never speaks of England but with enthusiasm; and, if her arrangements will permit, she does not despair of passing the remainder of her life on our shores. Catalani is an universal favourite in all the best society at Florence, on account of qualities that will long survive her voice: for it need hardly be remarked, that her vocal powers are a little on the wane."

At Rome, we are told, "The excavations in the Forum are still going on, but proceed at a very slow rate. Some Duchess of Devonshire is again needed to give fresh animation to the work. I have often stood over the excavators; but there was no reward for curiosity, excepting loose earth, mixed with the crumbled fragments of the 'marble wilderness.' The arrangement for carrying on these excavations almost makes it impossible that any valuable object should elude the eye. The workmen are stationed with their pickaxes and shovels tier above tier on a kind of terrace cut in the soil, and each shovel of rubbish is examined as it is tossed from one to the other in succession; and, when it reaches the top, is gathered into a heap to be carried away, so that it were next to a miracle that a rusty nail should escape."

The ignorance of the clergy is curiously illustrated.

"Ignorance is universal through all ranks at Rome, and superstition in as full blow as in the fifteenth century. The credulity of the priests is, above all things, astonishing, and would be laughable, were it not so humiliating. To hear what he would say, I related a story to a prior of the church, which has long been current among the Maltese, respecting the miraculous nature of the sanctified cave formed out of a rock in that island, where the Apostle Paul is said to have been confined; assuring him, with all the gravity I was master of, that, although pilgrims and strangers from every part of the world had been cutting away fragments of the rock for eighteen centuries, the cave still remained without one atom of change."

"Ecco," said his reverence, turning quick and earnestly round to a friend of his at his elbow, and striking the forefinger of the right hand against the thumb of the left, "Ecco, amico mio, una prova assoluta della sua fonzione apostolica," which proof his friend appeared to accept with quite as assured a conviction as himself. The prior betrayed an ignorance of things that a boy of ten years old ought to be ashamed of. He had never heard of the lake of Geneva, which made his friend stare, and provoked to venture a gentle rebuke for exposing himself. He supposed that he must have forgotten the name of the place. His reverence was astonished when I told him that the Countess of Albani was a descendant of our deposed royal family; and it seemed a material accession to his stock of facts when informed that Ireland is under the same government as England: yet it was a mistake for which you may allow, perhaps, that he de-

served some little indulgence. There was a strange wholesale substitution of credulity for rational belief. He allowed unbounded credit to the history of Romulus and Remus. Both brothers, he remarked, shewed a turn for architecture; and almost as soon as they had quitted their nurse, 'one set about building the houses and the other the walls of Rome.' He was a stanch worshipper of the redoubtable Wellington, and asked if he was still alive."

Of the state of society at Naples, with its 40,000 professional beggars,* the author's sketches are lively and striking; but, for columnists like ours, what he tells of antiquities and literature is more to the purpose: and he is so completely at home in them, so competent a judge, with such classical attainments, that we again and again repeat our wish that he had given us ten times as much of them, and left politics to men of inferior calibre.

On the important subject of education, Sir A. says:—

"We can scarcely wonder at this gross immorality. Education here, as at Rome, is wholly in the hands of the priesthood, who are

* The following, as connected with this subject, appears to us to deserve notice:—"To the other causes of poverty which have degraded these people may be added the number of their charities. Among countless establishments of this nature, an enormous national poor-house, called the *Albergo dei poveri*, large enough to contain the two Sicilies, is open to the whole beggary of Naples. The *Albergo* will justify some observation, as it is a academy and hospital for indigent persons, as well as a refuge for the poor. This establishment, if it were completely filled, I am told, would lodge between 6000 and 7000 persons. It is under the direction of the brother of the minister of the interior, a Colonel St. Angelo, who conducts the details on strictly military principles; and so jealous is he of any interference with his management, that he has been known to refuse the king himself to infringe upon his rules. The *Albergo*, as a school of art, embraces every kind of instruction which is necessary to fit the rising generation for earning their bread without begging. Book-binding—lithography—working in lava, bronze, brass, and steel—the manufacture of pens, pencils, nails, and glass—shoemaking—tailoring—needlework—hatting—turning—spinning—weaving in all its branches; and in every kind of stuff—carpenters' work—sculpture—women's work—type-founding, &c. &c.: all these branches of industry are in constant activity; besides which, there are schools to teach drawing, music, mathematics, and languages. The *Albergo* plan has been adopted for the children. Their punishment extends no further than disgrace; and every boy, when he commits a serious offence, is tried by a jury of his equals. The accommodations are of a superior order, and comprise all kinds of conveniences: kitchens—bakeries (from which twenty cantars of bread issue every morning)—washhouses—cellars—wardrobes—die-houses—infiraries—apothecaries, shops, &c.; and a spacious chapel, for the general use of the public, as well as the poor, is appointed with steady useful clergy, and the sick supplied with the best medical and surgical assistance. The whole is under the tutelar guardianship of St. Gennaro and the *Donna della concezione*; but priests are allowed to have no share whatever in the direction. This institution is maintained partly by government and partly by subscription, assisted by the industry of the inmates. The food is excellent and abundant, and every attention paid to health. When the weather is unfavourable, there are some saloons especially appropriated to the exercise of both sexes. I found, however, that the poor had no great relish for the *Albergo*; nor is it, in such a climate and with such habits, very surprising. Liberty is dear to all, and rags and vermin felt as a grievance by none. If a pauper gets but half a dozen granoes by his profession—and it must be a poor day's work that fails to turn in double or treble that amount—he can breakfast and dine for half that sum, and lay by the remainder for the *madonna*. Should an epicure of the craft take a fancy to indulge himself more generously, he can provide three very satisfactory meals for a carlin, consisting of macaroni, fish, fruit, and wine as much as he can desire, for a farthing. For a farthing he has a tumbler of iced-water; for three farthings the same tumbler with an addition of lemon-juice, or the juice of the blood-orange; and, if he spends one penny more, he commands a dish of cannelloni, that makes a draught for an aperitif. Nor have the sons of men been allowed to enjoy the more honourable and industrious occupations. A soldier's pay is but seven granoes and a half a day, and a labourer gets no more than fourteen, to find himself in everything; all wages, in short, are miserably small. Even a *volet-de-chambre* rarely earns above twelve ducats a-month. The daughter of a major in the army (a friend of Lord W. Bentinck's) hires a semperette at 4*lire* a-day. All the world knows that their cheating is on a par with their poverty."

never wanting in a plausible pretext for slurring over their task, or getting rid of it altogether. One of their devices, when they find a peasant particularly desirous of having his children instructed, is to affect warmly to second his wish: but mark the knavery. When a child is sent, every thing is done to puzzle him at starting, that his reverence may be able to furnish himself with a plausible reason in his stupidity for dismissing his pupil at once; or he, perhaps, finishes by flinging the horn back at his head, to give verisimilitude to his indignation. The parents are then easily persuaded to give up the idea of education altogether. In Murat's time there were upwards of 7000 Lancaster schools, not one of which is now in existence. So deplorably ignorant are the clergy themselves, though the fountain of all knowledge to others, that you may see them every day at the corners of streets dictating their thoughts, without a blush, to be wrought up into epistles to their friends, by a professional amanuensis—an artist in universal request. And yet some of these clergy, who, from a defective acquaintance with the alphabet, are obliged to commit the church service to memory, have actually reached the very highest preferment in their profession. Nor is the ignorance of the very highest order of nobility less disgraceful. I have been solemnly assured by a Neapolitan, that one of the king's brothers gravely put him a question as to the position of Gibraltar on the map of Europe. *

There is no spot about Naples so famous for the work of the stiletto as Torre Annunziata. Assassinations have been unusually frequent here of late; and, to elicit confessions, the Jesuits had recourse to the following rather curious expedient. They gave out that Vesuvius was to spread indiscriminate ruin over the country, unless the men immediately surrendered their stilettos, and the women their tambourines. On a particular day, fixed for the peace-offerings, the priests assembled, and many thousand stiletto-bearers arranged themselves rank and file on one side of the street, and the ladies on the other; the latter in fearful apprehension, and deprecating the mountain horrors on their knees. All the tambourines were given up, but not one stiletto, which clung fast like the besetting sin; even the terrors of the church are impotent to dissolve the clasping charm of the dearest of their passions—the love of revenge. These would seem impolitic experiments on the credulity of the mass; a repetition of such false alarms by their clergy, one would suppose, must lead to some distrust of the infallibility of their authority. Not so. Their reverences are never without a back-door to escape. Their prayers can always turn the current of any prediction to which they may be committed, and the failure, in place of being put down to the score of imposture, will be swallowed as confirmation strong of the church's omnipotence; which, as in this particular instance, is not only able to move mountains, but to keep them quiet."

[To be concluded next week.]

Von Raumer's Frederick II., &c.

[In continuation.]

WE resume with pleasure our illustrations of this volume, satisfied that our miscellaneous sheet could not be occupied with more generally interesting matter. For the personal character of Maria Theresa, and the phases of Austrian affairs during the period it embraces, we must be content to refer to its own pages; whilst we divide what remains for us into a few separate

heads, though the events occur with lapses of years between them.

Concerning Russia, the accounts of the several revolutions given by our ambassadors in their despatches contain many remarkable particulars. Thus, in 1742, when Elizabeth was raised to the throne, we learn:—

" This revolution was accompanied by a series of appointments and arrests, liberations, banishments, and confiscations. There is no describing the insolence of the guards, since the last event, especially of those who were actors in it, to whom court is paid, as if they were masters here, which they think themselves, and perhaps with too much reason. Ostermann does not behave with the same intrepidity as Münnich. The French ambassador still continues prime-minister. Great court is paid to him; he publicly kisses and is kissed by the Janissaries in the drawing-room. * * * Her majesty has declared the 300 grenadiers her life company; the private men are all to have the rank of lieutenants; the corporals and serjeants, of captains and majors; and the six who had the greatest share in the late affair, lieutenant-colonels; the ensign, brigadier; the two second-lieutenants, of major-generals; and the first-lieutenant, of a lieutenant-general. They are to be quartered in houses which her majesty has bought for that purpose just by the palace. She herself is to be captain, and has ordered her grenadier's cap and amazon dress to be made, to appear at their head. The commission of state prisoners meets at the court palace. Her majesty is constantly at the tribune, where she can see and hear every thing without being seen, as she says, to prevent favour or injustice. This declaration, with the general confiscations previous to any hearing in defence, cannot be reconciled but by the constant practice of this court on such occasions. They speak, also, of the application of the knout to the prisoners. Münnich was before the inquisition, for there is nothing in this country, at least in such cases, which deserves the name of court of justice. He told the commissioners to their face, that he was not more guilty than they. Lestocq's ordinary discourse is a continued egotism. I proposed, ordered, this and that. So, too, he says, he has appointed an ambassador to London." The following extracts are from the despatches of the year 1742:—

" The proceedings against the prisoners continue: it is impossible to conceive the inhumanity of the commissioners towards the unfortunate prisoners, which grows worse and worse, and, it is said, by the express commands of those who are present to prevent injustice. But it is to be feared that private piques and personal revenge prevail where they might be least expected, and are least becoming. One of the new lieutenants affirmed that field-marshal Münnich had told him, on the nightly attack of the Duke of Courland, that it was intended to place the Princess Elizabeth on the throne. Münnich denied this; and, upon the confrontation, the lieutenant offered to receive the knout, provided that, if he maintained this assertion under that torture, the old field-marshal should undergo it in his turn: who, rather than be exposed to that indignity, owned the accusation; however, made it so appear, to those who certainly knew, that the great duchess herself desired the officers and soldiers that accompanied Münnich on that expedition, to follow his orders. The new counsellors do not agree together, and the express thinks ill of their heads, and still worse of their hearts. I know not one here who would pass for a tolerably honest man in an-

other country. A subaltern officer was sent after the deposed czar and his parents, to give one of the great duchess's chambermaids the knout, without saying why, and immediately returned." After the inquiry, as it was called, into the conduct of the prisoners was ended, the ambassador relates, on the 19th of February:—

" Count Ostermann, Münnich, Golofkin, President Mengden, the high steward Löwenwolde, and the secretary Jacobitz, were yesterday brought to the scaffold before the college. First of all, about ten o'clock, Ostermann, whom Elizabeth hated the most, was carried in a chair, when the enumeration of the crimes laid to his charge, containing five sheets of paper, was read to him by a secretary. His excellency stood all that time bacheaded, in his gray hairs, and with a long beard; and, with an attentive, but firm countenance, listening to it. At last his sentence was pronounced, which, as I hear, was, to be broke on the wheel. However, no preparations for so terrible an execution were there: instead of them, there were two blocks with axes by them; and he was immediately drawn forward out of his chair by the soldiers, and his head laid on one of the blocks; when the executioner approached, and, unbuttoning the collar of his shirt and night-gown he had on, laid bare his neck. The ceremony took up about a minute, when it was declared to him that his capital punishment was by her majesty changed into perpetual banishment; when, after having made a sort of inclination of his head, he immediately said (and these were the only words he uttered), 'Pray, give me my wig and cap again;' which he immediately put on, and then buttoned his shirt-collar and night-gown without the least change in his countenance. The sentence of the other five, who stood below, was also read to them: Münnich was to be quartered, and the others beheaded, but the change into banishment was as soon declared to each. The four had all long beards; but the field-marshal was shaved, well dressed, and with as erect, intrepid, and unconcerned a countenance as if he had been at the head of an army or at a review. And, from the very beginning of his process, he has always behaved in the same manner before his judges, and in his way from the citadel and back; he always affected to joke with his guards, and constantly told them that, in some actions before the enemy, when he had had the honour to command them, they had thought him a brave man, and they should find him so to the end."

M. Von Raumer seems to think, that Catherine, in 1762, when Elizabeth's death caused such a change in the state of Europe, might not have been aware of the murder of her husband, Peter III., and contrasts her case with that of Mary of Scotland, in her favour, and to the disadvantage of the latter. The catastrophe of Iwan III. is a sad tragic story (1764):—

" Count Panin told Buckingham, that the prince's understanding was absolutely confused, and his ideas were blended together without the least rational distinction. The ambassador gives the following account of his end on the 20th of July, 1764:—

" Lieutenant Mirowitz, who was upon guard in the citadel of Schlüsselburg, where Prince Iwan was confined, having first seduced the soldiers under his command, went to the commandant, and insisted upon his immediately releasing the prince, which the commandant declining, he immediately caused him to be bound. He next obliged the keeper of the magazine of powder to deliver powder to his soldiers. The noise which these proceedings occasioned alarmed a captain and lieutenant; one of whom was in the prince's bed-

chamber, the other in the ante-room. Lieutenant Mirowitz, having afresh encouraged his men, advanced to the prince's apartment, and demanded, with the most violent threats in case of a refusal, that the emperor, as he called him, should be produced. After some resistance, the captain and lieutenant, finding themselves in danger of being overpowered, told Mirowitz that, if he persisted, it would endanger the prince's life; as their instructions were, in case they found their efforts to guard him ineffectual, immediately to put him to death. Mirowitz, deaf to all remonstrances, forced the door, which put them under the unhappy necessity of executing their orders. The first stab, from a Captain-lieutenant Uchtinskoï, waked the unfortunate youth, who was asleep in bed: he made so stout a resistance as to break one of the swords, and received eight wounds before he expired. The officers then produced the body to Mirowitz and his soldiers, and told them, they might now do with their emperor what they thought proper. Mirowitz carried the corpse to the front of the guard, and covered it with the colours; and then, with all his soldiers, prostrated himself before it, and kissed his hand. Then, taking off his own gorget, sash, and sword, laid them by the body, and, addressing himself to Korsakoff, colonel of the regiment of Smolenskoï, who was then arrived, and pointing to the body, told him, 'There is your emperor—you may do by me as you please. Adverse fortune has blasted my design. I mourn not my own fate, but the misery of my poor fellow-citizens, and the innocent victim of my undertaking.' He then embraced the under officers, and surrendered himself and his soldiers."

With regard to general history, all the negotiations after the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle convey much curious information; and the breaking out of the famous Seven Years' War (1756), together with the circumstances of its process and results, are replete with valuable features. Sorry are we to notice the poor figure which our own country cuts in this mighty contest, and the lesson it affords of the injury and disgrace inalienable from the struggles of factions for political power. Hear how our ally, Frederick, describes us to our ambassador.

"I am very sorry, my dear Mr. Mitchell, to hear of the divisions which have broken out in your English government. Good God! it seems to me, that, at the present moment, every man who has at heart the interests of his nation, and those of Europe, ought to lay aside all personal interest, to think only of an interest paramount to all others—that of maintaining the Protestant cause and the liberty of Europe. I confess that I have learned with the most lively grief the dissensions in your government. Is it possible that so many men who, however, have a regard for the interests of the country, can give the advantage to the eternal enemies of their government by intestine divisions? How can the King of England and the nation adopt good measures against their enemies? I find, in the nation itself, persons who, though hostile to the French, render them the greatest services, by hindering the state from taking measures in time against the enterprises of our common enemies. For Heaven's sake, let patriotism revive among your countrymen, and let them look at things on a grand scale, and not through the microscope of personal interest. For my part, I think at the present moment only of Europe: I have opposed to me only the duumvirate, which is dangerous to the liberties of England, as well as to those of Germany, and especially to the Protestant cause. I see

the winter approaching, and with it the interval of truce, in which the inclemency of the season suspends the madness of men. I think that this precious moment should not be suffered to escape without taking on all hands, both by sea and land, the measures which are calculated to resist the powerful efforts which the houses of Austria and Bourbon will make against us. I have many things to propose to you, which I withhold till your internal storms are allayed. I am, perhaps, like the Abbé St. Pierre, who dreamed about the happiness of Europe; but I do not know to whom I should propose my dreams. A preliminary is the restoration of tranquillity at London: and I believe that all well-disposed persons will labour to bring it about. Let people dispute about personal interests when they have nothing better to do—well and good—but at present, my dear Mr. Mitchell, to dispute about offices when liberty is at stake! I think all parties ought to unite against the common enemy, and leave such wretched disputes to a more convenient season. I speak to you as a citizen of Europe, who has much at heart the good of his allies and the independence of his country—who hates tyranny, from whatever quarter it comes, and desires only the good of Europe. I wish that all your countrymen were as sensible and as good citizens as you; and we should together be a match for all the conspiracies which ambitious minds might form against the tranquillity of Europe. Adieu, dear Mitchell."

This picture was but too just; for, the year after, Mitchell himself writes:—"For nine months together, in consequence of the internal dissension of England, the king has been answered with fair words. But, in the situation his affairs now are in, there is no time to be lost; if England will not endeavour to save him, he must save himself as he can." And again:—"England is cheated, and its ministers duped, by Hanover. What a pitiful figure will they make in England! The most notorious breach of faith has been wantonly committed, to support a weak, ill-judged, and ineffectual measure. You know what has happened. Why was not the King of Prussia previously consulted? I can answer with my head, he would have yielded to any reasonable proposal for the safety of Hanover. What will posterity say of an administration that made the treaty of Westminster for the safety of Hanover, and suffered the Hanoverian ministers to say openly, that they have no treaty with the King of Prussia; nay, have suffered them to betray that prince, who has risked all to save them, and whose misfortunes are owing to his generosity and good faith. Let us have done with negotiating; after what has happened no man will trust us. I know not how to look the King of Prussia in the face; and honour, my lord, is not to be purchased with money. Nothing (less) than a miracle or an absolute submission to France can save the king. The loss of a battle will only anticipate the ruin of his country a few weeks; the winning of it cannot save him. I lose myself when I think of his situation. I see no salvation for him but in the arms of France. He assumes a gaiety and easiness not natural nor suited to his situation, but I can perceive a sensible alteration in his temper, which has made him do some harsh things. He said, 'I have commenced the war like a general; I will finish it like a partisan.' The king never appears discouraged or disconcerted; he even in public shews a cheerfulness and easiness of mind difficult to be maintained in such circumstances."

And, nine years later, Macartney tells Mitchell, in a despatch from Petersburg:—"I must not omit to tell you, in confidence, that nothing can equal the contempt in which not only the empress and her ministers, but even all the diplomatic body, hold British politicks. For, however wise or necessary the frequent changes in the administration may be supposed at home, it is certain that they render us ridiculous and despicable abroad."

We shall conclude with a few extracts relative to Frederick himself; and the following, at the death of his mother, is of singular interest.

"On the 28th of June, ten days after the battle of Kolin, died Sophia Dorothea, the mother of King Frederick. Mitchell speaks in several despatches of his unfeigned and profound sorrow. 'The king (he writes on the 2d of July) has seen nobody since he has received this news, and I hear he is deeply afflicted. His grief, I am sure, is sincere; for never any man gave stronger marks of duty and affection than he has done on every occasion to his mother; and no mother ever deserved better of all her children than she did. Yesterday,' he continues on the 4th of July, 'the king sent for me, which is the first time he had seen any body since he received the news of the death of his mother. I had the honour to remain with him some hours in his closet: I must own to your lordship I was most sincerely affected to see him indulging his grief, and giving way to the warmest filial affections by recalling to mind the many obligations he had to his late mother, and repeating to me her sufferings, and the manner in which she bore them, the good she did to every body, and the comfort he had to have contributed to make the latter part of her life easy and agreeable. The king was pleased to tell me a great deal of the private history of his family, and the manner in which he had been educated: owning, at the same time, the loss he felt for the want of proper education; blaming his father, but with great candour and gentleness; and acknowledging that in his youth he had been *étourdi*, and deserved his father's indignation—which, however, the late king, from the impenitence of his temper, had carried too far. He told me, that by his mother's persuasion, and that of his sister of Baireuth, he had given a writing, under his hand, declaring he never would marry any other person than the Princess Emilia of England; that this was very wrong, and had provoked his father. He said he could not excuse it, but from his youth and want of experience. That this promise, unhappily, was discovered by the late Queen Caroline, to whom it was intrusted, having shewn or spoken of it to the late General Diemar. He had betrayed the secret to Seckendorf, who told it to the King of Prussia. Upon this discovery, and his scheme of making his escape, his misfortunes followed. He told me, with regard to making his escape, that he had long been unhappy, and hardly used by his father. But what made him resolve upon it was, that one day his father struck him, and pulled him by the hair, and in this dishevelled condition he was obliged to pass the parade; that, from that moment, he was resolved, cost what it might, to venture it. That during his imprisonment at Kliistrin, he had been treated in the harshest manner, and brought to the window to see Katt beheaded, and that he had fainted away. That^{*} might have made his escape and saved himself, the Danish minister having given him notice; but he loitered, he believed, on account of some

^{*} "The space for the name is left blank in the MS., but M. Von Raumer thinks it may be Katt."

girl he was fond of. The king said, the happiest years of his life were those he spent at a house he had given to his brother, Prince Henry. There he retired after his imprisonment, and remained till the death of the late king. His chief amusement was study, and making up for the want of education by reading, making extracts, and conversing with sensible people and men of taste. The king talked much of the obligation he had to the queen, his mother, and of his affection to his sister, the Princess of Baireuth, with whom he had been bred. He observed, that the harmony which had been mentioned in his family was greatly owing to the education they had had; which, though imperfect and defective in many things, was good in this,—that all the children had been brought up, not as princes, but as the children of private persons."

The following is also curious:—

"In the summer of 1760, Voltaire negotiated with the king about war and peace. Mitchell, at least, writes on this subject:—‘I believe the court of France makes use of the artful pen of Voltaire to draw secrets from the king; and, when that prince writes as a wit, and to a wit, he is capable of great indiscretions. But what surprises me still more is, that, whenever Voltaire's name is mentioned, his majesty never fails to give him the epithets he may deserve, which are, the worst heart and greatest rascal now living. Yet, with all this, he continues to correspond with him. Such, in this prince, is the lust of praise from a great and elegant writer, in which, however, he will be at last the dupe; for, by what I hear from good authority of Voltaire's character, he will dissemble, but never can, nor will, forgive the king what has passed between them.’ * * *

"Frederick, duly appreciating the greatness of the dangers that threatened him, wrote to D'Argens a few days before the battle of Torgau:—‘I will never see the moment which shall oblige me to make a disadvantageous peace. No persuasion, no eloquence, shall ever induce me to sign my own dishonour. I will either suffer myself to be buried under the ruins of my country; or, if this consolation appears too much to fate, which persecutes me, I shall know how to put an end to my misfortunes when it will no longer be possible to endure them. I have acted, and I continue to act, according to that internal sense, and the point of honour, which guide all my steps: my conduct will at all times be conformable to these principles. After having sacrificed my youth to my father, my manhood to my country, I think that I have acquired a right to dispose of my old age. I have told you, and I repeat it, my hand shall never sign a disgraceful peace. When every thing is lost, when no hope is left, life is a disgrace, and death a duty.’ * * *

"Frederick was sensible how difficult,—nay, how desperate, his situation was; thought seriously of death, and, on the 1st December, 1761, wrote a speech of the Emperor Otho, after the battle of Bedriacum, and, on the 8th December, a speech of Cato before his death. We are entitled to believe that, if he had not met with death on the field of battle, he was resolved, in case of extremity, to die by his own hand."

We do not think our author's reasoning on this point, however, will meet with universal assent. He adds:—

"It is unnecessary to enumerate and enforce in this place the irrefragable arguments of Christianity against suicide; but those who

bear with great tranquillity the disgrace of an unworthy life have no right, on this account, to represent themselves as good Christians. Nay, even those who would willingly spin out to eternity the thread of their empty and insignificant existence, have here no right to pass sentence of condemnation, for they do not understand what the question properly is, and measure things essentially different with the same standard. *Duo cum faciunt idem, non est idem.* If a gamester, a bankrupt, no longer able to prolong his extravagant and worthless course of life, puts an end to it in a moment of despair, is he to be placed on a level with Otho, Cato, and Frederick the Second? The king's task was at an end as soon as he could no longer be a king—no longer a *great king*. For him, a life in dishonour was a complete impossibility. If this assertion implies that the tendency of his life was not perfectly conformable with the Christian mode of thinking and acting, saints may sit in judgment, and condemn him, but not old women of both sexes. Had it been the will of God that Prussia should be reduced to a little electorate, without spirit and energy, Frederick was not the man to direct the eternal monotony of the petty machine. Some other person was required for this purpose. Accordingly, he puts the following words into the mouth of Cato:—

‘Le sage avec mépris voit la mort sans la craindre; Louez mon action, gardez-vous de me plaindre. Quand on voit sa patrie et ses amis perir, Un lache y peut survivre, un héros doit mourir.’

But it was otherwise decreed in the book of Fate. This noble monarch, who had dedicated his whole life to the weal of his people, who was about to sacrifice it for them, was not to pass unrewarded from the scene of action."

To his constancy and military talents did he owe this consummation; and, without shewing how it was realised, we bid adieu to the admirable work which has unfolded so many of its concomitant events and combinations.

Coup-d'œil sur les Progrès et sur l'Etat actuel de la Littérature Anglo-Saxonne en Angleterre. Par M. Thomas Wright. Traduit de l'Anglais par M. de Larenaudière. 8vo. 1836. Paris, Silvestre; London, Pickering.

This is a neat and comprehensive popular sketch of a very interesting subject; and gives a complete view of what has hitherto been done in England in the cultivation of the study of the Anglo-Saxon language, which is now beginning to receive from our scholars the attention it deserves. Within a few weeks, we expect to have to notice several most important publications of, or concerning, the literature of our Anglo-Saxon forefathers. The little tract whose title we have given above, and which is published in London by Mr. Pickering, to whom Anglo-Saxon scholars owe so many nice books, originally appeared in England in the shape of a review; but the additions and alterations, which have been made in the translation by the original writer, have made it, in its present form, quite new to use. We ought, perhaps, to observe, that it contains an analysis of the curious Anglo-Saxon romance of Beowulf. The translator, M. de Larenaudière, is a gentleman well known for the encouragement he has given to the publication of the early literature of his own country, and as a distinguished geographer, the colleague of Malte Brun and Humboldt. He has designed it as the first of a series on the same subject, under the title of *Anglo-Saxonica*; of which the second part, nearly ready, will contain a bibliographical view of all

the works which have hitherto been published, which concern the Anglo-Saxon language.

The Adventures of Gil Blas, &c. Parts I. to X. 8vo. Pp. 314. (Smollett's Translation.) London, 1837. Dubochet and Co.; Tilt and Co.

The admirable and far-famed novel of Le Sage, *Gil Blas*, here appears in an English dress, adorned as befits a work of such celebrity. It is profusely illustrated with wood engravings of a very highly characteristic and superior order. The accuracy of the printing, and the beauty of the type, demand especial notice; and these recommendations, combined with the admirable manner in which the plates are worked off, give the Willoughby press a claim to rank high among the foremost in the race for excellence. This edition would grace any library, and will, doubtless, hold a distinguished place in the collection of every patron of literature and the arts.

ARTS AND SCIENCES. GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

FEB. 22.—The Rev. W. Whewell in the chair. A paper was read by Captain Grant, of the Bombay Engineers, on the geology of Cutch. This district, so peculiarly interesting on account of the earthquake by which it was devastated in 1819, is bounded on the west by the eastern branch of the Indus and the territory of Sind; on the north, by the Thur, or Little Desert; on the east, by the province of Guzerat; and on the south, by the Gulf of Cutch and the Indian Ocean. It is naturally divided into two districts, distinguished by their physical features. The northern, called the Great Runn, is a sandy flat, containing about 9000 square miles; but the southern is a hilly district, consisting of about 6500 square miles. The formations of which the latter is composed are arranged by the author under seven heads: 1. A system of laminated shale, limestone, and sandstone, abounding with ammonites, belemnites, and other fossil characteristics of the secondary formations of Europe. It occurs principally in the northern part of the district, constituting a range of hills which borders the Great Runn. 2. A series of sandstones and shales, inclosing layers of iron-ore and thin beds of coal, sometimes tolerably good, but generally very impure. It forms the central and principal part of the district, rising also into a chain of hills. Captain Grant was not able to determine satisfactorily its age, with reference to the preceding deposit. The iron-ore is smelted by the natives to some extent, particularly near the town of Doodye. The variety generally selected, on account of the imperfect apparatus employed, has a spongiform texture, small specific gravity, and is easily frangible. The ore is broken into small pieces, and disposed in layers, alternately with others of charcoal, in a rude open furnace, acted upon by two small bellows made of sheep-skin. The metal, on being fused, falls into a small hole at the bottom of the furnace; whence it is removed into an inclosed furnace, and subjected to similar blasts, till it acquires a white heat, when it is taken out and beat into a bar. The third formation is a white limestone, which occupies a small area south of Luckput, on the Indus, and contains innumerable numulites and fasciolites; also echini, spatangi, and corals. 4. A series of strata, considered by the author as tertiary, on account of its fossils. The principal genera mentioned in the paper are clypeaster, pecten, ostrea, cardium,

* "Without doubt, Rheinsberg."

conas, cyprea, solarium, ovula, fusus, and strombus, the species being often grouped in beds; and in some localities there are patches of corals, two or three acres in extent. The tract occupied by these strata ranges along the southern side of the province. 5. Another sandstone deposit was noticed by Capt. Grant, though without being able to determine its geological position with reference to the other formations. It differs very materially from that connected with the coal, being much softer, and of a greater variety of colours. Associated with it are beds of variegated clay; and it is overlaid by an aluminous earth, which is covered by a bed of red clay. 6. Alluvial deposits. Under this head Captain Grant described the changes produced along the southern coast by the accumulation of sediment. At Mandaree, three miles inland, is a ruin called the old Bunder, or quay; and in the centre of the town is a small temple, built upon a rocky foundation, but said to have stood in the sea when the old Bunder was the landing-place. At other localities in the Gulf of Cutch similar processes are going on, rendering it necessary to remove the landing-places frequently further seaward. The same operations are also in progress over a district, not situated immediately on the coast, but connected with the gulf by small creeks, some of which penetrate six or seven miles into the interior. This district is covered with shrubs, which at low-water are exposed to the roots, but at high tides have merely their tops visible; so that boats appear to sail through a marine forest. The growth of the shrubs is rapid; and the sailors have constantly to force their vessels through the upper branches, particularly at the bends in the creeks, when they wish to save a tack. The stems and lower boughs are covered with testaceæ, while the upper are occupied by numerous water-fowl. During the monsoons, the water of the creeks is charged with mud; and, passing but slowly through the shrubs, a great portion of the sediment is precipitated. In August 1834, the rains were very violent and continuous; and the river Nurra covered with a fine soil a surface of nearly one thousand acres. 7. Volcanic rocks. In the southern part of the province is a range of hills composed entirely of basalt, with other volcanic rocks; and extensive similar formations occur a little to the south of Luckput; and minor outbursts are scattered over the central districts. These rocks were described by Captain Grant with considerable minuteness; and he enumerated a great variety of instances in which the disturbances of the strata can be traced in the clearest manner to the protrusion of trap. He shewed, also, that eruptions had taken place at many distinct periods; beds of basalt, trachyte, or amygdaloid, alternating with each other, and with limestone, calcareous grit, and tuff. Among the phenomena connected, apparently, with volcanic action, is a number of convex mounds, varying in diameter from three to twenty yards, and covered with small tabular plates of sandstone, the lines of fracture radiating, though irregularly, from a centre. In some instances the summits had been removed, and a circle of stones was displayed, inclosing an area of sandstone, the fractures in the stones decidedly radiating at the stones of an arch. In other instances the mounds assumed the magnitude of small hillocks; from which the outer coating having generally fallen away, the whole presented a heap of broken masses of rock. Another class of volcanic phenomena occurs near the village Wagé-ké-pudda, where a district of about two square miles forms a

table-land, which is covered by mounds of loose volcanic scoria. The platform itself consists of marl; and the sides are fissured and flanked by long irregular hills of ironstone and gravel. From the loose nature of the scoria, and the facility with which it is removed by atmospheric agents, Captain Grant inferred that the mounds have been thrown up at a comparatively recent period. The paper concluded with an account of the Great Runn. This singular region, as already described by Captain Burnes, consists principally of a sandy flat, for the greater part of the year dry, but during the prevalence of the S.W. winds converted into an inland sea, passable, however, on camels. Captain Grant believes that the present oscillating position between land and water of the Runn is due to its elevation, and not to a depression in the level of the sea; and in support of this opinion adduced the alterations, both of elevation and depression, produced by the earthquake of 1819. The author described also several extraordinary walls of rock, thrown up, apparently, by volcanic action, some of them assuming a dome shape, others segments of circles, or straight lines.

LINNEAN SOCIETY.

MR. LAMBERT in the chair.—A plant of the tree cabbage, 9 feet in height, which the chairman had received from Sir William Symonds, was exhibited. Read, an account of some useful plants of the South-sea Islands, by Fred. Bennett, Esq. The first plant which Mr. Bennett notices is the *Tacca pinatifida*, from the tubers of which the natives of the Society Islands prepare large quantities of arrow-root; a considerable part of which is exported. The second is the yellow or Nankin cotton-bush (*Gossypium religiosum*), which Mr. Bennett found at Moree, one of the Sandwich Islands. The natives call it Merou, and use an infusion of the flowers of the dye. The mountain plantain, a species of *Musa*, Mr. Bennett states is found abundantly throughout the Marquesas and Society Islands, particularly in the more elevated districts; the fruit of which forms a favourite article of food of the natives, a great part of whose time is occupied in bringing it from the mountains. The fruit is larger than that of the common plantain, and is of a deep orange or red colour outside, but filled with a yellow pulp. Amongst the trees noticed by Mr. Bennett, are the *Inocarpus edulis*, or South Sea chestnut; the *Calophyllum inophyllum*, the wood of which resembles mahogany, and is employed extensively by the natives in ship-buildings, and for other purposes; and the *Ito*, a species of *Casuarina*, whose wood is very hard, durable, and heavy; and is used for making spears, clubs, &c. The groves of *Casuarina* are selected by the natives as places of interment. It bears no inconsiderable resemblance to our cypress.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

FEB. 23. The president, Dr. Lee, in the chair.—The papers read at this meeting were as follow:—The first was a communication by Mr. Akerman to the president, on the oversights to which historians and antiquarians are liable in consequence of neglect of the numismatic department of history. This deficiency in the best scholars, which can alone be remedied by the systematic extension of medallic studies, was exemplified by reference to a notice by Mr. Hogg “on two Roman inscriptions, relating to the conquest of Britain by the Emperor Claudius Caesar,” read before the Royal Society of Literature at the meeting of Feb.

9th.* These appear in a wall of the Barberini Palace at Rome; and the oldest, from which the other has been copied, is thus given in Donati’s “Roma Antiqua,” as restored by Gauges de Gozze.

TI. CLAVDIO DRUSI. f. CESARI
AVGVSTO GERMANICO PIO
PONTIFICI MAX. [Trib. Pot. IX.
COS.V. IMPERATORI XVI.] PATRI PATRI
SENATVS. POPVLUSQUE ROMANVS QUOD
REGES. BRITANNI PERDULIES SINE
VILLA. IACTVRA Celeriter Ceperit
GENTESQ. EXTREMARVM ORCHADUM
PRIMVS. INDICIO. facto R. IMPERIO INDICERET.

In commenting on this inscription, Mr. Hogg remarks, that the prenomen IMPERATOR belongs to Claudius, although here omitted. Reference to the numerous coins of Claudius would, however, have assured him that the title was never adopted as a prenomen by that emperor, in agreement with evidence of Suetonius (*in vit.*), *prænomine imperatoris abstinuit*. The learned writer, instead of the dates as restored by De Gozze, *Trib. Pot. IX. COS.V. IMP. XVI.* would read *Trib. Pot. XI. COS.V. IMP. XXII.* But the coins struck by Claudius to commemorate his British conquest prove that De Gozze is right; these having a triumphal arch, with the inscription *DE BRITANNIS*, and, on the obverse, the words restored by that scholar, who hence appears to have derived his dates from these contemporary records of the event.—This was followed by the first portion of a memoir by Mr. Cullimore “on the Medo-Persian coins, named *darics*, or *archers*.” The assumed existence of a national mintage in the metropolis of Upper Asia, ascending to the sixth century before the Christian era, and only second in antiquity to that of the earliest coinage of Greece,—while the surrounding countries of the East, from the Euphrates and the Nile to the Ganges, have left no traces of a coined currency until the art was introduced by Alexander and his successors,—is an anomaly in the history of nations which has hitherto been admitted without contradiction. Its validity was first called in question by the writer, in a communication on the Jewish shekel, addressed to Dr. Lee, in the second No. of the *Numismatic Journal*; and his present object was to submit to the Numismatic Society the more matured results of his inquiry. Egyptian discovery has furnished us with a decided negative to the existence in that country of any coined currency previously to the Ptolemaic dynasty, not only as regards the period of the ancient Pharaohs, but that of their Persian successors, who ruled Egypt during the principal part of the two centuries which preceded the Macedonian conquest. If the Ptolemaies re-coined the Persian money, they may equally have done so with that of the previous native dynasties; so that no argument can be grounded on such an hypothesis: which is, moreover, negatived by the ruins on the Euphrates and Tigris, and the whole of oriental history, monumental, monetary, and written; which, eastward of the Nile and Asia Minor, offers no exception to the oriental equivalent by weight, from Abraham until the age of Alexander. As the period of the Ptolemaies in Egypt, that of the Seleucide, fixes the earliest numismatic limits in Syria, Phenicia, and the adjacent regions, as well as in Parthia, Bactria, and India. In like manner the coined shekels of Simon Maccabaeus offer the first indication of Jewish money. It follows, that if the gold and silver darics mentioned by Herodotus and Xenophon, of which there are many existing examples of about the

* We accidentally omitted the notice of these in our report of that meeting.—*Ed. L. G.*

value of our guineas and shillings, formed the national currency of the Persians under Cyrus and his successors, this circumstance is an exception to general principles,—the inhabitants of this and the surrounding countries being alike allied in lineage, habits, and wants. That no such exception existed seems evident from the fact of the darcis, although bearing the royal Persian stamp of the archer, being found only in countries which are known to have possessed a coinage of their own previously to their annexation to their Persian empire, and whose relations and commercial habits required it. Thus, in Egypt, where there was no previous coinage, no darcis appear; whereas, it is in the Lesser Asia, among the nations to which the art had spread from Greece, the parent of some and the relative of all, that these coins are discovered. Besides, although the stamp is Persian, the standard weight and value are strictly Grecian. The Persian arrow-head writing is never seen in the inscriptions, which, wherever such appear, are invariably in Greek or Phoenician characters, and their import local and provincial; and the common obverse device, that of a galley or a fish, in the more advanced period of the darcis, connects these with commercial states and purposes: from all which there seems but one possible inference—that these are a re-coining of the money previously existing in the conquered provinces, for circulation within the former territorial limits, under the royal Persian authority. The age to which the darcis ascend is next shewn, from contemporary evidence and its consequences, to be that when the countries of Asia Minor were annexed to Persia by the conquests of Darius the Mede, and Cyrus, about 650 years before our era, and the proverbial poverty of the Medes and Persians ended.—The readings were concluded by a communication from Sir Henry Ellis to the president, on the siege pieces of the time of Charles I. The authenticity of some of these being questionable, in consequence of the silence of contemporary documents respecting them, and the uncertainty of the places at which they were struck, the writer's object was to supply this desideratum in numismatic history, so far as regards the shillings struck at Pontefract, in Yorkshire; and this is effectually done by the production of a contemporary notice* hitherto unseen by numismatic writers, in which some of the square Pontefract shillings, found on a royalist prisoner by the republicans, are described as being stamped on one side with a castle, and the letters P. O.; and on the other with a crown, having C. R. on each side of it. Sir Henry reminds collectors, that by the letters P. O. are to be understood P. C., the form of the C being carried round like that of an O, either from bad striking or battering, as is evident from some of the extant pieces.

MEDICO-BOTANICAL SOCIETY.

MARCH 8. Humphry Gibbs, Esq. in the chair.—A communication from Mr. Judd, on the *Conium*, was read. The author, for the purpose of testing the value of the various extracts, had prepared one *in vacuo*; another in a wedgwood dish, by heat; and a third by spontaneous evaporation. The two first he considered to have failed in fulfilling their objects; the last, however, was certainly a valuable preparation. Dr. Bureau Riofrey recommended a trial of the acetate of conium, as made use of by Recamier; it was considered by many practitioners to be a very valuable

* This notice appears in a newspaper of the time, *The Kinghorn's faithfull and impartiall Scout*, dated Feb 2 to 9, 1648.

medicine. Dr. Hancock exhibited the stem and leaf of the Woocari plants, from which is obtained a poison, in which the natives of South America steep their arrows. A bundle of these poisoned arrows were on the table.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.
UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, 21 March.—The following degrees were conferred:

Bachelor in Divinity.—Rev. R. Rees, Fellow of Jesus College.
Master of Arts.—Rev. H. M. Villiers, Student of Christ Church.

Bachelor of Arts.—G. J. R. Salter, Christ Church.
The election for a Professor of Political Economy took place in the afternoon of the same day, when Mr. Mervile, of Balliol College, was the successful candidate; the numbers being—for Mr. Mervile, 88; for Mr. Twiss, 62.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

PROFESSOR SEDGWICK in the chair.—A valuable paper, by Professor Whewell, on the tides, especially in reference to those at Plymouth and Singapore, was read. This communication chiefly treats of those remarkable diurnal inequalities which frequently characterise the tide in the morning and that in the evening of the same day; inequalities, according to the testimony of naval officers, to which is attributed the destruction of many a ship. The diurnal inequality at Plymouth, from March to September, is as much as a foot in height, and *vice versa* the rest of the year. Professor Whewell finds that his results correspond with the equilibrium theory. The calculation of the inequality at Singapore (a port chiefly chosen by the author for the excellence of the tide observations made there) is equal in quality as in amount with that at Plymouth—perhaps, a little greater. The author then adverts to the inequalities at Liverpool, at Bristol, not more than a few inches; at Leith, not much; and at other places. This diurnal inequality creeps from place to place; for instance, when it is great on the shores of America, it is nothing on those of Europe, and again *vice versa*. Further, it is singular that, while the phenomenon is distinct and steady at some places (for example, on the coasts of America, Spain, &c.), it is nothing at places intercalated: thus, it is found to affect nearly the whole of the Indian Ocean, yet at an island in its centre it is not felt. The paper was accompanied by tables.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

MARCH 4th. The Right Hon. C. W. Wynn, in the chair.—Donations to the library were presented. A paper, by Col. Sykes, on the origin of the popular belief in the poison-tree of Java, was read to the meeting. The romantic story of this wonderful tree, which spreads its baneful influence for many miles round, and the near approach to which is almost certain death,—with the details of condemned criminals sent to the tree to collect its poisonous juices, and pardon to the few who might escape its malignant emanations,—have been for many years before the public. The discovery of the real *upas*-tree very much lowered the interest of the tale, and the whole was set down to the imagination of the Dutch physician who first circulated the account. But a visit made in 1830 to the poison-valley of Java, by Mr. Loudon, whose account has been published, has restored much of the credibility of the original story; though still much must be set down to exaggeration. The noxious exhalations; the rapid extinction of life in the animals directly submitted to their influence; the number of skeletons seen lying about in the valley, bleached to the whiteness of ivory under

a tropical sun,—go far to furnish a foundation for the most dreadful tale: and such are the actual scenes visited and described by Mr. Loudon. This gentleman is inclined to impute the poisonous nature of the air in the valley rather to vegetable miasma than to the emission of carbonic acid gas from the ground, as at the celebrated *Grotto del Cane* near Naples; both from the much greater extent of the noxious vapour, and the absence of sulphur in the neighbourhood of the valley—though he admits that the whole vicinity is decidedly volcanic. Col. Sykes is, however, of opinion, that the description given by Mr. Loudon affords a very lively idea of the *Grotto del Cane*; and that the only difference between them is, that in Java the gas issues from a crater at the top of a hill, and at the *Grotto del Cane* from a small cave. In both localities the traces of volcanic action are strongly manifested; and in both the noxious gas produces very similar effects.—The next paper read was a journal of a pedestrian tour, by Capt. Low, from Tavoy to the range of mountains which separate Siam from the British province of Tenasserim. Captain Low was attended by nearly ninety persons, sixty of whom were Burmese porters and guides, and the remainder the sepoy guards and servants. The expedition left Tavoy in the dry season, when a drop of rain is an extraordinary phenomenon; but the party were wetted to the skin by a deluge on their first day's march. They reached the Siamese frontier, a distance of fifty miles, on the sixth day; having passed through a country covered in most parts with dense forests, and traversed by elephants' paths in all directions, but entirely destitute of human inhabitants. After the first day they did not meet with a single human being. The density of the forest may be imagined by the fact that an attempt to get a horse and elephant along their path was abandoned at once; not from any impracticability on the road, but because the overhanging trees absolutely precluded a passage. The elephants' tracks, which often traversed the path pursued by the expedition, were much more open, and better beaten, than the travellers' road, which shut out from them all view of the surrounding country. On the mountain range separating the provinces a fine view, extending one hundred miles, was obtained. The scene is described as wild and magnificent, but utterly uncultivated and abandoned. On the Siamese side it was a region of mountains,—range succeeding range, until lost in the distance. On the side of Tavoy the country was more open; hills and valleys were mingled, and the Tavai peak was seen towering over the intervening ranges. The British flag was hoisted on the ridge which separates the two countries, and saluted with three rounds of musketry; it was then pulled down, and a common *lascar*'s handkerchief substituted for it. The writer learned that the handkerchief was afterwards carried to Siam, where it was magnified into an union-jack. During much of their route the party found the grass abundant and verdant, although the dry season had lasted four months. This was occasioned by the copious dews which collect in the leaves of the trees, and shower down a torrent upon the passers by,—a bounteous supply, without which all those regions would be utterly parched up. There are scarcely any means of traversing this country otherwise than on foot. There are no beasts of burden whatever; and, although a slight cart, drawn by a single buffalo, may be procured, it can be used only on short excursions. Five miles is about the greatest distance that

can be traversed in any direction without being obstructed by broken-down bridges, gaps in old causeways, sloughs, and rocks. The paper also contains some curious anecdotes of the habits of the Burmese, whose capabilities as guides and porters on a march were now first ascertained, and, apparently, have not been entirely unsatisfactory.

LITERARY FUND.

At the general meeting for the annual election of officers, &c., on Wednesday, the only vacancy in the list of vice-presidents was filled with the name of Lord Stanley: all the others were, with his grace the Duke of Somerset, president, re-elected, viz. Marquess of Lansdowne, Earls of Mountnorris, Mulgrave, Munster, and Ripon; Lords Carrington, Ellenborough, Brougham and Vaux, Henley, Fras. Egerton, and John Russell; Sirs R. Peel, J. Hobhouse, E. Swinburne, and R. H. Inglis; C. Savill Onley, Esq., A. Spotswood, Esq., A. T. Hope, Esq. M.P., and J. T. Hope, Esq. The members of the council were re-elected, with the Rev. Dr. Croly, who had resigned the office of registrar, in the room of T. Crofton Croker, Esq., who had accepted that office, and Daniel Wilkinson, Esq., in the room of Dr. Valpy, deceased. For the general committee, to fill up vacancies which had occurred during the year, were elected, J. Emerson Tennent, Esq. M.P., T. Longman, jun. Esq., and W. H. Rosser, Esq. F.A.S. At the close of the meeting, thanks were voted to G. Woodfall, Esq., for his impartial exertions in the chair; and the general committee being formed, sat for two hours, to examine the claims for relief, when ten cases of unfortunate literature received such succour as their several circumstances appeared to sanction. The anniversary was fixed for Wednesday, May 3, and a numerous and distinguished attendance is anticipated.

There was, however, one matter which occasioned considerable regret to the committee, namely, a letter from Mr. Roney, resigning the office of secretary to the Fund. The efficient services of that gentleman in every thing that concerned the Institution, but especially his delicate and kindly conduct in all communications with claimants (a point of deep interest), as affecting the best feelings of the Society, cause his loss to be much regretted.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Royal Geographical, 9 P.M.; British Architects, 8 P.M.; Marylebone Literary, 8 P.M. (Mr. E. Taylor on Vocal Music, and the 26th); Russell Institution, (Mr. H. Godfrey on Insect Anatomy with Oxy-Hydrogen Microscope; and ensuing 20th and 27th); Belgrave Literary Conversazione, 8 P.M.

Tuesday.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical, 8 P.M.; Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.; Zoological, 8 P.M.; Society of Arts, 8 P.M. (Mr. J. Taylor on recent improvements in mining); Belgrave Literary, 8 P.M. (Dr. Gully on the Physical and Moral Attributes of Men of Genius; and the 21st); Lambeth Literary, 8 P.M. (Mr. Serle on the Drama); Meteorological (Anniversary), 8 P.M.

Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 7 P.M.; Statistical, 3 P.M. (Anniversary.)

Thursday.—Royal Society, 8 P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.; Islington Literary, 8 P.M. (Mr. Downes on Steam Power, conclusion); Numismatic, 7 P.M.

Friday.—Royal Institution, 8 P.M.

Saturday.—Royal Asiatic, 2 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

GRAPHIC SOCIETY.

The third conversazione of this most agreeable Society took place on Wednesday last. It was numerously attended, and there were many beautiful drawings and studies exhibited. A very rich folio of Turner's drawings, from Mr. Windus' collection; one of Harding's finest drawings, "Como," belonging to Mr. Austen;

some beautiful drawings and studies by Mr. J. Nash and Cattermole, &c.; a folio of splendid drawings sent by Mr. Griffiths; sketches by Copley Fielding; some fine engravings by Lewis and others; and several fine drawings by D. Roberts, for a forthcoming work of his, to add to the same class of works already published by Harding, Lewis, and Prout. The supply of works of art by the members and visitors afforded a most gratifying treat.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Historical and Literary Curiosities. Engraved by C. J. Smith. No. V. Pickering.

The present Number of this curious and ably executed work is published on an extended scale. Of the views which it contains, the most interesting, perhaps, are, "The house formerly occupied by the Royal Society, in Crane Court," and "The residence of Sir Isaac Newton, in St. Martin's Street;" of the antiquities, the Bible used by Charles I. on the scaffold, and "The Caligraphic Exhibition-Bill of Matthew Buchinger, the Dwarf of Nürnberg;" of the original documents, "Letter of Dr. Barlow, bishop of Lincoln, relating to the removal of the King's Treas, in the British Museum, from the Bodleian Library," and "Part of a Letter from Lord Bolingbroke to Dr. Swift." We will transcribe the last-mentioned, to shew that the world, and its censors, are much the same now as they were when that letter was written.

"Sincerity, constancy, tenderness, are rarely to be found. They are so much out of use, that the man of mode imagines them to be out of nature. We meet with few friends. The greatest part of those who pass for such are, properly speaking, nothing more than acquaintances; and no wonder, since Tully's maxim is certainly true, that friendship can subsist *non nisi inter bonos.*"

The Edinburgh New General Atlas of Modern Geography. No. I. Edinburgh, W. and A. K. Johnston; London, Whitaker and Co. The first part of this new geographical publication contains "the World," "the Eastern Hemisphere," "the Western Hemisphere," and "Europe." The plates are engraved with great clearness; and every map is so coloured as to represent the territorial connexions of the various countries.

The Churches of London. By George Godwin, jun. Architect; assisted by John Britton, Esq. F.S.A. No. III. Tilt.

Two views of that fine relic of the architecture of the early part of the twelfth century, "St. Bartholomew the Great, Smithfield," engraved by J. Le Keux, from drawings by R. W. Billings, and a woodcut, representing "the old Vestry," form the neat and pleasing embellishments of this Number; in the typographical part of which there is an instance of conscientiousness, so rare and so laudable that we cannot refrain from noticing it. It appears that an error, entirely that of the printer (for it did not occur until after the final revision of the author), crept into the first page of the first Number. That error merely consisted of converting the singular "Englishman," into the plural "Englishmen." So solicitous, however, is the proprietor of the publication "to make the work as accurate as possible," that in the present Number he has actually furnished a cancel-leaf; in which, of course, the mistake is corrected. We recom-

mend the example to the publishers of works of greater magnitude and price.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

I AM NEVER ALONE.

Lines by *Lady J.*—s.

I AM never alone at early dawn,
When the lark pours her gushing notes on high;
When the diamond dew-drop gems the lawn,
And the daisy opens her tearful eye:
I am never alone! — with fragrant hair,
The spirit of the first sweet hour is there!
In one glad pean our songs arise —
"Thanks be to God for the earth and skies;
For the early dawn, the glittering dews,
The heaven of song, the glow of hues;
The life, the light, the love we share; —
Thanks for the thoughts of praise and prayer!"

I am never alone at warm noon-day,
When the breeze is drank by the scorching heat;
When the lark hath hushed her trilling lay,
And the flower shut up her odours sweet:
I am never alone! — for near me lies
The spirit of woods, with deep dark eyes;
And my heart is stilled as flower and bird,
For my soul that spirit of woods hath heard.
In low soft murmurs the sounds arise —
"Thanks be to God for the earth and skies;
For the glowing noon, the cooling glade,
For the sweets of rest, the calm of shade; —
Thanks for the thoughts of praise and prayer!"

I am never alone at evening's close,
When the twittering birds bid earth good-night;
When the insect hums round the laurel-rose,
And the bat fits low in the gray twilight:
I am never alone! — on bended knee,
The spirit of night doth pray with me.

SKETCHES.

A Brief Description of the Etruscan and Greek Antiquities, now open at 121 Pall Mall. Inscribed to Samuel Rogers, Esq. Pp. 24. London, 1837. Mallett.

Since the exhibition, by Belzoni, of the facsimile of one of the Egyptian tombs explored by him, we have seen nothing in London more interesting to the antiquary and philologist than the objects which the above little tract describes.

In them are placed before us certain tangible records of the sculpture, rites, and ceremonies, of the ancient Etruscans; a nation whose *lucumonies*,^{*} or principalities, were established long before the foundation of Rome, in whom that infant empire found powerful opponency, and who, when overcome, gave to Rome herself many of the religious rites and civil arts which she (Etruria) had possessed in common with the Greeks. Into the numerous speculations relative to the origin of the Etruscans themselves we have not leisure, at this time, to enter; suffice it here to say, that, at the first glance at these antiquities, the vases, sculptures, arms, and paintings, of which they are composed, we were convinced that they emanated from the same source with Grecian art. Several inscriptions, in the Etruscan language, appear on the sarcophagi in these tombs; and a proof of their great antiquity is, that they are read from right to left. The characters are a mixture of Greek and Roman together, with

* So called from *Lucumo*, an Etruscan word for a chieftain.

some which may be considered peculiarly Etruscan. The antiquities exhibited are the result of excavations which Signor Campanari has made at Vulci, in the limits of the ancient Etrurian district of Tarquinia, since the year 1828. It will make his tract rather more intelligible to the general reader to observe, that he uses the term *urn* in a very extended sense, and that when he speaks of an urn, he generally means a sepulchral chest or sarcophagus, as in the following passage: "From these specimens (the cists exhibited) it is evident that the urns frequently presented on the fascia or upper cornice the epitaph of the deceased, which comprised his own name and that of his family, age, and, sometimes, particulars of his life. At the top of the *urn* [read *chest*] was placed the statue of the deceased in a recumbent position, whether male or female, if their condition had been such as to call for this mark of distinction. Within the urns we have often found, together with the skull and bones, the favourite objects of the deceased which he or she used, when living—such as a woman's gold ornaments, the whole or part of the armour of a warrior, mirrors, cestuses, dice, table utensils, and pieces of money of very ancient date." Of almost every one of the articles here enumerated, the tombs exhibited contain most interesting and singularly perfect specimens: the greaves, shield, sword, and javelin, of the warrior; the golden wreath of the priestess, the sacrificial implements and tripod altar of the temple where she had served: all these objects are presented to us with an identity of locality, effected by the painted walls of the tombs being careful facsimiles of the real receptacles. The statues, vases, ornaments, weapons, &c. are the original articles themselves, the sculptures are all made from the stone of the country; the Tarquinian tombs are grottos or excavations formed in the sides of cliffs, and closed, after the primeval mode, with a huge stone: "the whole are cut in a certain granite stone of the district, called *Peperino*; for, at the period of their formation, they had not begun in Italy to work the marble of *Luna*, the Greek or African marble, which were afterwards introduced by the Romans. To those acquainted with Pompeii, these tombs afford singularly gratifying illustration of the fact, that that city was but an Etruscan colony Romanised; and they will observe in the paintings and objects of those funeral mansions the pure Etruscan, or Pelasgo-Greek style: in Pompeii they will recognise it still preserved, with some variations conformable to Roman taste. We are not in the habit of rendering indiscriminately the meed of our applause to every "foreign wonder" which a London spring-season establishes in our streets, and we entered these Etruscan catacombs quite unprejudiced, and, therefore, unprepared for the importance of their contents. Surely many of these, particularly the sculptured sarcophagi, are worthy of the attention of the trustees of our national Museum. They are, indeed, extraordinary specimens of classic "monumental effigies;" a point from which a Charles Stothard might have exulted to start, in illustrating sepulchral memorials.

We hope, at least, to see the details of the painted walls and contents of these tombs preserved in a graphic form, with literary illustration more extended than in the little tract now before us. Most heartily, in the mean time, do we wish Signor Campanari that encouragement from the enlightened portion of our countrymen which his undertaking has so well earned. How gratifying is it to the scientific and inquiring mind to have perfect spe-

cimens of the earliest periods of art thus cheaply brought home— even to our doors!

The author dedicates his *brochure* to Samuel Rogers, Esq., whose classic taste and poetry are so well known, and whose patronage, we are happy to infer, he enjoys.

We purpose to return to the subject of M. Campanari's exhibition very shortly.

EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES.

AT the close of a series of six very interesting and instructive Lectures on Egyptian Antiquities, delivered at Exeter Hall, by Mr. Pettigrew,—which it is a good sign of the taste of the times, and the increasing desire for information, to notice, were well attended by persons of both sexes, and of various ranks of life,—that gentleman, on Monday evening last, summed up his remarks, and unrolled a mummy, most liberally presented for the occasion by Mr. Jones, of the Admiralty. This operation excited a marked feeling throughout the whole of the numerous auditory, including many individuals of distinction in the literary circles. In the commencement, Mr. Pettigrew, referring, with just enology, to Mr. Wilkinson, who was present, noticed that the inscription on the outer case differed from that on the inner case containing the mummy. Both stated the party to have been a female; but the names and genealogies were different, and the latter stated the mother of the deceased to be living when her daughter died. It might be that the wrappings would settle the point; which, however, they did not,—for no name was found on them, as often occurs. The mummy was Greco-Egyptian, and embalmed after the ancient manner; the bowels being extracted by an incision on the left flank, and the brains, probably, through the nostrils, as the nose was much broken. The legs were separately bandaged, and the ankles bound by stripes of painted linen, about half an inch in breadth. The figures were not hieroglyphic, but simply ornamental. Bands of the same kind surrounded the arms, which were crossed upon the breast; and a similar circle went round the neck, with a thin golden scarabaeus (?) in front. On each knee was also a thin piece of gold, resembling the lotus-flower; over each eye the providential eye of Osiris, of the same material; and another golden ornament upon the top of the ridge of the nose. There were rings on the fingers; but the opportunity was not sufficient for examining them, nor time for proceeding to the careful and laborious unrolling of the body to the end. The upper wrappers were not voluminous, and of coarse naumkeen-coloured linen. Then came a complete envelope of asphaltus, and below that the usual disposition and extent of linen rolls. On the soles of the feet were slight sandals, transversely striped black, white, and red, exactly like those painted on the bottom of the inner case. The finger and toe-nails were gilt; and, altogether, the subject presented many objects for further investigation and study.

At the conclusion of his discourse, which was much applauded, Mr. Pettigrew feelingly took occasion to mention a paragraph in the *Times* newspaper, which stated that Mr. Davidson, the enterprising and intrepid traveller in Africa, had been murdered, within fourteen days' journey of Timbuctoo. By accounts received from our vice-consul at Mogadore (af Feb. 1), it appeared that two reports had reached him of our countryman's having been stopped and robbed; but these did not convey the fatal intelligence of his murder; and, on the contrary, from their tenor, encouraged a

hope that Mr. Davidson, though plundered, was not destroyed, and might yet return in safety to his friends and country. God send it may be so!

Mr. Pettigrew also intimated, that Mr. Athanasi's splendid mummy, from Memphis, would be unrolled on the 10th of April, in Exeter Hall: a notice which has excited a strong sensation among the lovers of Egyptian lore and antiquities; for, hitherto, those which have been examined in this country are from Thebes and other places, and we have had no opportunity of seeing the generally richly ornamented mummies of Memphis.

The Friendly Loan Society.—This truly benevolent and eminently useful Society has fairly tried the experiment of the vital and extensive benefit it is calculated to confer on the struggling lower orders. The losses, which many individuals feared so much, have, during the first year, been very trifling; certainly nothing to impede the well-working of the Institution. Experience, too, has been acquired; and the managers will not again be liable even to these drawbacks, and rules have been framed to provide for their avoidance. On the other hand, the particular instances of absolute salvation from ruin, and restoration to comfort, by means of the Society, are most gratifying. Eight hundred loans, amounting to £6000, have been granted; and, in almost every case, a blessing has attended the timely aid. 104 shoemakers, 60 tailors, 44 dress and bonnet-makers, 40 carpenters, 23 school-keepers, 35 booksellers and stationers, 31 greengrocers, 15 laundresses, and so on, in various proportions, have sought and obtained such aid, without the interference of the pawnbroker, and often escaping the low attorney. Need we say how much such an association is entitled to the liberal patronage of the good and the charitable?

MUSIC.

VOCAL SOCIETY.

THE fourth concert was, in all respects, a very delightful one. Mrs. Bishop and Miss Masson were greeted with a warmth that shewed how much their absence had been felt and regretted by the audience. The last-named lady "won golden opinions" by her finished and energetic performance of Purcell's trying cantata, "From rosy bowers." This song, and the ever beautiful coronation anthem, "The King shall rejoice," were of themselves sufficient to render the concert attractive. The madrigals were, "The Lady Ariana," by Wilbye, and "Fair shepherd's queen," by Luca Marenzio; the latter performed for the first time. Both were good, and received with the usual tokens of satisfaction. Mrs. Anderson delighted the admirers of good piano-forte playing by her masterly style of performing the first movement of Hummel's concerto in A flat. The other vocalists were Mrs. Seguin, the Misses Wood-vatt and Hawes, and Messrs. Hobbs, Hawkins, Francis, King, Fitzwilliam, Bradbury, Belamy, and E. Taylor.

[Notice of the fifth concert in our next.]

ANCIENT CONCERTS.

THE first concert, on Wednesday last, under the direction of the Archbishop of York, for the Duke of Cumberland, consisted of a very good selection, including the overture and "Prisoners' chorus," from *Fidelio*; the trio, "Fin grata," from the same opera; and a good sprinkling of Mozart and Haydn. The vocalists were Mademoiselle Blasis and Signor

Catone, Mesdames Knayett and Shaw, and Messrs. Bennett, Phillips, and King.

Royal Academy of Music.—We are glad to see announced four morning concerts by the pupils of the Royal Academy of Music, and commencing next Saturday. The noble chairman, Lord Burghersh, deserves the utmost regard of the musical world, and especially of those who admire the cultivation of a national and native school, for the indefatigable attention he bestows on this excellent institution.

DRAMA.

Opera.—*La Donna del Lago* was produced on Saturday. The operatic corps is, as yet, inferior to what we are accustomed to look for, as the standard for comparison, at this theatre; but it is nevertheless hardly fair, before Easter, to criticise the performances by that test. Rubini, Lablache, Tamburini, and Grisi, are still so fresh in our memory, that aught short of such a combination must produce something like disappointment. The management of the Lyceum did wisely in giving us new operas; we had then nothing to regret, and they afforded a pleasant evening's amusement; but, where we expect more, the same means are insufficient. Signora Angiola, the *débutante* of Saturday, has a pleasant and melodious voice, which would be heard to great advantage in a room, but has not power for so large a space as the King's Theatre. Her great exertion was so evident, that we really felt for the signora, and feared she would break down. Signor Deval, another *débutant*, has a tolerable voice, a baritone, and, till the arrival of our favourites, will be an acquisition, though not as *primo*. Catone sang very sweetly, and is the only foreign transplantation adequate to the situation. Miss Wyndham did her best, and was heard to greater advantage than ever. She is rapidly and fully confirming our prognostics in her favour. We have not yet heard Madame Giannoni, but, with her fine musical taste, we have no apprehension for her success. The ballet continues its delightful attraction, and we are to have the great hit of last season, *Beniowsky*, revived immediately.

Adelphi.—A most successful burletta was produced on Monday, entitled *The Gamester Father*, in which Mr. Yates's acting was so fine and touching, that he drew tears from almost every eye. It is an adaptation from the French, and, of its kind, the best thing we have seen for a long time. The license of the *Adelphi* has been, as we stated, extended two months, on account of Easter falling so early in the year; and great preparations are making for the extra campaign. There are many novelties announced, and among them an Easter piece, for which Mrs. Honey has been engaged, and which is said to be very beautiful. Mr. Rice took his benefit and departure on Saturday. He has amused and offended many; he should have been seen but once, and he was very good; but we got so tired of *Jim Crow*, that we are glad it is over.

St. James's.—One of the best farces that has appeared for some time was brought out on Monday. It is called *Is she his Wife?* and though rather a ticklish plot, is so well written and acted, that it affords a fund of amusement. Mr. Harley never appeared more at home, and Miss Allison was as successful in farce as she has been in tragedy. Mr. Gardner improves, and is very ludicrous with his pomposity in this piece. We are on thorns for the appearance of *Mr. Pickwick*, who is announced for Monday, Harley's benefit. He has been an excellent caterer since he has been at the *St. James's*, and

we shall doubtless have a hearty laugh at his personation of the gallant head of the *Pickwickians*, which report says he dresses to the life; for "Boz's" pen has really made him a living character.

VARIETIES.

Mr. Davidson.—Referring to Mr. Pettigrew's statement relative to this gentleman, we have (Friday afternoon) made the latest inquiries in our power upon the painful subject. There is no authentic account of his death in London, and it rests on the paragraph in the *Times* newspaper. That he has been attacked and robbed seems but too probable, from the rumours at Mogadore; and, under such circumstances, fears must be entertained for the safety of any traveller in that country. The Mogadore letters, as mentioned by Mr. Pettigrew, were very contradictory, and evidently exaggerated, as the sheikhs, &c. wished to make an impression in favour of themselves, and against their rivals; and this is another circumstance to strengthen our hope that Mr. Davidson has been allowed to go on to Timbuctoo.

Royal College of Physicians.—At the first meeting of the season on Saturday, which was attended by many distinguished individuals, Sir H. Halford delivered a discourse on comparative longevity.

The Drury Lane Theatrical Fund, announced for Wednesday, holds out great promise, both for the day's enjoyment and the future interests of this excellent charity.

Lord Viscount Kingsborough, eldest son of the Earl of Kingston, died on the 27th ult. His lordship was much attached to, and a considerable proficient in, antiquarian learning, and has left behind him one public monument of his diligence and munificence—having, in 1831, printed six splendid volumes of the "Antiquities of Mexico," which were illustrated by *facsimile* plates, taken from inedited MSS. preserved in the Royal Libraries of Paris, Berlin, and Dresden; in the Imperial Library at Vienna; the Vatican; the Borgian Museum; the Library of the Institute at Bologna, together with some, and those of the most curious and beautiful description, in the Bodleian Library, preserved among the collections of Archbishop Laud, and the learned Mr. Selden. Of this magnificent work, four copies were printed upon vellum. His lordship sat in the first parliament of George IV. for the county of Cork, and died in prison, to which he was consigned for debt.—*Newspapers*.

Weather-Wisdom.—(10th.) The weather has been extremely cold during the past week; but the winds have not been high, nor the weather unsettled. The storm anticipated on the 4th, according to Lt. Murphy, did not take place; and, *à propos*, we have not now room for a second letter from that gentleman. Lieutenant Morrison, for the ensuing seven days, predicts "12th, cloudy; the middle, turbulent, gloomy, and frequent rains; 18th and 19th, milder."

Lord Lyndhurst has been elected Lord Rector of the Marischal College, Aberdeen: the competition was pretty strong, and was made much of a political struggle.

Junius.—The *Inverness Courier* continues to mention matters tending to prove, that Lachlan Maclean was the author of *Junius's Letters*: we shall look with curiosity for Sir D. Brewster's statement on the subject.

Sudden Death of Miss Macauley.—Miss Elizabeth Wright Macauley, a lady who has been some time known to the public in the varied and opposite characters of actress and preacher of the Gospel, who some years ago left

the stage and became the occupant and preacher of a chapel in the metropolis, and who subsequently returned to her former profession, died suddenly in the city of York, on Wednesday, the 22d ult. It appears that, for the last twelve months, Miss Macauley had been travelling through the provinces, delivering lectures on "domestic philosophy," which were interspersed with recitations, &c. During the last three weeks she had been sojourning at York, delivering a course of lectures in the Merchants' Hall. Tuesday evening was the third lecture delivered by her in that city, and, melancholy to relate, her last; for, although on that evening she appeared in excellent health and spirits, the following day she was a corpse. On the following day (Wednesday) her health appeared better than usual, and her spirits very good, until towards nine o'clock in the evening, when she suddenly fell from her chair, in her apartments, apparently in a fit, and shortly afterwards died. An inquest was held upon the body on the following day, and a stroke of apoplexy was declared to be the cause of death. Deceased was a very stout person, and very fat. She was 52 years of age.—*Newspapers*.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

In the Press.

Memoirs of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, by James Gillman, Esq. [This announcement we are well pleased to see. Mr. Gillman, with whom Mr. Coleridge resided so long, can give us, if he will, the best, most particular, and only genuine account of the latter domestic and literary years of the poet.—*Ed. L. G.*—The Candidate for the Ministry; a Course of Expository Lectures on the First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to Timothy, by the Rev. H. Pinder, M.A.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Medico-Chirurgical Transactions: for 1836, Vol. XX. 8vo. bis. 15s.—Parke's Domestic Duties, 4th edit. 12mo. 10s. 6d.—Erasmias; a Tale, and other Poems, by Ellis Heywood, 12mo. 7s. 6d.—Old Friends in a New Dress, by R. S. Sharpe, 12mo. cloth, 4s. 6d.—Sketches of the Commercial Resources and Monetary System of British India, 8vo. cloth, 4s.—Guide for Invalids to the Continental Watering-Places, by Dr. Home, 3s. 6d. cloth. Francis Abbott, the Recluse of Niagara, and other Poems, by J. Bird, 8vo. 7s. 6d.—B. Montague and J. Ayrton's Law and Practice in Bankruptcy, 2 vols. 8vo. 11. 1s.—Wilsons on the Covenant, 2 vols. 8vo. 11. 1s.—J. W. Smith's Selection of Leading Cases in Law, royal 8vo. 11. 5s.—Semiolas in Africa: Adventures in Algiers, &c. by Prince Puckler Muskau, 3 vols. post 8vo. 11. 1s. 6d.—The Library of Anecdote, the Book of Human Characters, Vol. II. 6s.—Von Raumer's Contributions to Modern History, Vol. II.: Frederick II. and His Times, 8vo. 6d.—C. W. Wyatt's Poems, Original and Translated, 4 vols. 12mo. 2d edit. royal 8vo. 11. 5s.—Questions on Ancient and English History, by Mrs. E. Carrington, 12mo. 1s.—Reinhard's Terence, with Notes by Dr. Hickie, 12mo. 9s. 6d.—The Linnean Artificial System of Botany, by T. Castle, 4s.—Napoleon in Council, from the French of Baron Pelet, by Captain Basil Hall, 9v. —Popular Guide to Phrenology, 18mo. 1s.—Sunday Scholar's Annual for 1837, by the Rev. J. Burns, 32mo. 1s.—C. W. Gainfield on the Image and Likeness of God in Man, 8vo. 7s.—The Highlanders of Scotland, their Origin, History, &c., by W. F. Skene, 2 vols. post 8vo. 11s.—Leyell's Geology, new edit., 4 vols. 12mo. 11. 8s.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1837.

March.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 2	From 25 to 41	30-26 30-16
Friday .. 3	25 .. 43	30-18 .. 30-11
Saturday .. 4	32 .. 43	29-97 .. 30-04
Sunday .. 5	26 .. 47	30-02 .. 29-93
Monday .. 6	33 .. 44	29-94 .. 29-93
Tuesday .. 7	29 .. 46	29-96 .. 30-06
Wednesday .. 8	25 .. 48	30-10 .. 30-06
	Winds N.E. and W. by N.	
	Except the 7th, and morning of the 8th, generally cloudy; a little rain in the evenings of the 4th and 5th.	
	<i>Edmonton.</i>	CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.
	Latitude 51° 37' 32" N.	
	Longitude 3 51, W. of Greenwich.	

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are sorry we cannot oblige "E. K." The Poor-Law Poems, by Maurice Harcourt (under which *sonnet* we think we recognise a young writer who has a hereditary claim to literary distinction), do great credit to his heart, as well as to his talents; but they are not in our way for quotation. We thank "a correspondent," however, for directing our attention to them.

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BOOKS PUBLISHED THIS DAY.
THE QUARTERLY REVIEW,
No. CXV.

Contents.

1. Manners and Customs of the Zouaves.
2. Hallam's Introduction to the Literature of Europe.
3. Hamilton, &c. on Architecture.
4. The Duke of Wellington's Dispatches, Vols. II. and III.
5. Lord Wharncliffe's edition of Lady Mary Wortley's Letters.
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